



国家清史编纂委员会·编译丛刊影印系列

美国政府解密档案（中国关系）

# 美国驻中国广州领事馆领事报告 (1790—1906)

Despatches from U.S. Consuls in Canton, China,  
1790-1906

广西师范大学出版社 组织整理

程焕文 审订

— 12 —



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098	M101-11	135	C. Seymour 报告 Fulton 女士再次被赶出桂平。Kerr Fulton 先生还留在桂平,并努力促成 1886 年 5 月 6 日的暴行所致损失的解决,同时考虑医院和传教服务的恢复前景	1887-9-15	526
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Thank him for  
the information, L.F. (Laird)  
No. 80 3/4

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

July 6 1885

ac  
aug 17 85

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.

TO

Hon. A. A. Abbe,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Navigation of Canton River.

SYNOPSIS.

Inclosing Copy of Viceroy's  
reply to Consul's dispatch  
about obstructions to the  
navigation of Canton River.



No. 80

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

July 6. 1885.

H. C. Allen

U. S. Dept. of State.

Washington, D. C.

Sir

I have the honor to inform you that His Excellency, the Viceroy and Governor General of the Two Guangs, has replied, in his City, of his dispatch here appended and marked "A", to my dispatch dated June 18<sup>th</sup> 1885, a copy of which was included in my dispatch of that date to the Department of State, in regard to obstructed and unobstructed navigation of the Canton River, with restoration of peace between China and France.

The subject appears to have been considered by the King of the Siam in a reasonable spirit; and after communicating by telegraph with H. E. Li Hung Chang, assurance is given that after the departure of the French "Men-of-War" from the "Reservoirs" (between Portswara and the Coast), measures will be adopted for the restoration of unobstructed navigation.

It is understood that the "Reservoirs" would be evacuated by the French this week - probably Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> July.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour  
M. Consul.

(Copy)

"A"

*Translation*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

An official reply from H. E. the Governor General of the Two Sze to Hon. Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul at Canton, relative to river navigation.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> day, 5<sup>th</sup> moon, 11<sup>th</sup> year of the Reign of Chung-sin (June 19<sup>th</sup> 1885), an official dispatch was received from His Honor the United States Consul, here-in quoted verbatim et literatim, of which I the Governor General have had a thorough perusal. I, the Governor General, finding treaty of peace between China and France has been agreed upon, am exceedingly desirous to have the river obstructions of former times removed and cleared away, in order that merchant vessels might come and go un-impeided. But since French "Men-of-war" have not as yet evacuated Pescadore Islands, the seaports of China cannot but be cautious and prepared as formerly.

According to telegraphic communication of the Minister of Northern Ocean, stating that prior to the evacuation of French forces at Kelling and Pescadore Islands, the French "Men-of-war" have agreed temporarily not to enter the various ports of Amoy, Tamsui, Swatow, or even the French forces on the Chinese waters cannot be wholly withdrawn in a single day, so in a single day it is not convenient that their ships should have the privilege of coming and going. If at this time the seaports were suddenly made un-impeided, there is apprehension that some un-thought of misfortune would occur. Relative to the request of issuing proclamation in the dispatch at hand, it will be proper to carry it out as soon as the French forces shall have been wholly withdrawn. On receipt of the dispatch apart from instructing the Tientsin Head Quarter of



the War Department, it is proper to officially reply to His  
Honor the Consul, for investigation and consideration.  
With compliments of the season, etc.  
{ Suansei 11<sup>th</sup> year, 5<sup>th</sup> moon, 21<sup>st</sup> day }  
July 30<sup>th</sup> 1885 A.D. }

No. 81



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*July 15 - 1885*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Allee,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Transmitting Quarterly Account,  
with Vouchers, and Returns,  
upto June 30th 1885.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Inclosures as specified in  
inclosed list marked A.*

No. 81

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

July 15<sup>th</sup> 1885

W. H. Adee.

Chief Asst. Sec. of State.

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to hand you,  
as per inclosed list marked A,  
accompanying the inclosures,  
Quarterly Account for Rent and  
Miscellaneous Expenses, with Vouchers  
in duplicate; and Returns, as required,  
upto June 30<sup>th</sup> 1885.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant  
Charles Seymour  
U. S. Consul



A  
United States Consulate, Canton, China.

July 15<sup>th</sup> 1885.

List of inclosures in  
Dispatch N<sup>o</sup> 81  
to the  
Department of State  
from  
Charles Seymour, M. Consul,  
Canton.

1. Quarterly Account for Rent and Miscellaneous Expenses.
2. The same 2 Envelopes in duplicate.
3. Transcript of Record of Notarial Fees.
4. Aggregate of Official Fees for final year.
5. Digest of Province Book.
6. Arrivals and Departures of American Vessels.
7. Summary of Business at Canton Consulate.
8. " " " " Canton Agency.

Charles Seymour  
M. Consul

*ackd & filed J. D. R.*

No. 82

SEP 11 1885

United States Consulate, Canton, China.



*July 29 - 1885*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Allee,*

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,*

*Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Inclosing Copy of Proclamation  
of peace between China and France,  
and permission of French residents to  
return to Canton.* SYNOPSIS.

*The prospect of unobstructed  
navigation on Canton River  
following proclamation of peace.*

No. 61

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

July 29 1888  
Mr. Schuchman

Third Asst. Secy of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to send you,  
herewith appended, and marked A,  
a copy of a Proclamation issued  
on July 26 1888 by the Governor  
General of the Yunnan, the  
Governor of Szechuan, Yung Province,  
and the Imperial Commissioner,  
proclaiming peace between China  
and France, as suggested in my  
dispatch of June 18<sup>th</sup> 1888 to His  
Excellency the Viceroy & Governor General,  
of which a copy was sent with my dispatch  
No. 77 of that date to the Department of State.

It will soon be in order to ask for the fulfillment of the promise given by His Excellency, the Governor General of the Two Guangs, in the dispatch in reply to the one I sent to him, as to the removal of obstructions to navigation in the Canton River; as per Copy of the Viceroy's dispatch sent with my dispatch of 28 to the Department of State; if there is no indication of the adoption of measures for the restoration of unobstructed navigation.

It should be remembered that the barriers placed in the Canton River over a quarter of a Century ago have never yet been wholly removed, and many before the more recent obstructions will not all be removed.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour  
W. General

(Copy)

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Translation of Proclamations

Chang, Senior Member of the Board of War, Governor  
General of the Land Drang,  
Ding, Guardian of the Heir Apparent, Commissioner  
of Defense,  
Chi, Junior Member of the Board of War, Governor of  
Liang Tung Province:—

On the matter of issuing a proclamation.  
Be it known that China and France have already agreed  
and decided to with-draw their troops and resume their  
former peaceful relations; and on the 28<sup>th</sup> instant of the  
second moon (April 18<sup>th</sup> 1885), Imperial Decrees were re-  
ceived to the effect that China and France had concluded  
terms of peace in conformity with the Treaty of Tientsin;  
and on the 11<sup>th</sup> instant of this moon (July 22<sup>nd</sup> 1885), Im-  
perial Decrees were received allowing missionaries to re-enter  
the ports whereby manifesting the great confidence existing,  
which ought to command respectful attention in the manage-  
ment of these matters.

All the French Consulates, Chapels and dwelling houses,  
both those in the interior and outskirts of the City of Canton  
and those in the various Prefectures and Districts are to  
be immediately concealed and restored to the French Consul,  
missionaries and merchants who will in the meantime return  
to Liang Tung to reside as of old.

It is feared that you people being ignorant of the circumstances  
from the first to the last might become suspicious and  
incredulous and cause trouble; apart from giving orders  
to the Prefectures and Districts to be obedient to the Pro-  
clamations, it is hereby proclaimed to the soldiers and  
people of all classes that now inasmuch as China and  
foreign nations are at peaceful terms, the French people  
who come here are to enjoy the same privileges as those  
of English, German and American Nations, without any  
distinction whatever, and you people must not be the


least alarmed, or suspicious, or maintain two different  
views.

If there are any ruffians who taking advantage of  
the occasion, should interfere and cause trouble, they  
will be certainly at once arrested and be dealt with severely.

Let everyone tremblingly obey this special proclamation.

{ Kwang-Hsin, 15th day }  
26th July 1885. {

Translated by  
Chiam Gey Hoo.

*ack. S. D. R.*  
*Painfully interesting*  
*Sept. No. 83*  
  
United States Consulate, Canton, China.  
*July 29<sup>th</sup> 1885*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adee,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Further particulars in regard  
to the inundation of June 1885  
in Southern China.*

SYNOPSIS.



No. 83

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

July 29 - 1885.

Hon. A. A. Aldrich

Third Asst. Secy. of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to present to you some particulars concerning the flood or inundation at and about Canton, along the tributaries and valleys of the Canton River; of which mention was made in my dispatch No. 79, dated June 27 - 1885.

The calamity was greater than was generally supposed; as appears from the reports of various Committees of natives and foreigners engaged in expeditions for the relief of the sufferers.

Sustenance was quickly sent from Canton to the destitute sufferers nearest this City; and from them information came that multitudes of natives had been deprived of their homes, crops, and property, and means of subsistence, by the disastrous flood. Immediately, natives and foreigners at Canton, Hong Kong, and Shanghai, subscribed liberally; and sent several expeditions to several of the mandated districts; where it was found that the greatest destitution and suffering among residents of the country where the deluge occurred, many thousands of lives were lost. From trustworthy English and American members of the various relief expeditions the following facts have been gleaned. Subscriptions for relief amounted to about \$80,000.

The bulk of relief was sent in rice, bread, biscuit, and needed food, for immediate necessities of the distressed.

The sufferers at Canton and vicinity were recipients of timely relief, and their trouble terminated with the subsidence of the flood, measurably; although more or less sickness must ensue from their occupancy of damp houses, in which the water rose to a depth of from two to four feet.

The first or nearest district where the inundation caused havoc began about forty miles above the City of Canton, at a place known as the "Three Waters," where the "North," "Northwest," and "West" Branches of the Canton River are confluent, at which point, in the bed of the main river, between two and three thousand bodies of dead people, were recovered from the stream, and buried near that place.

The bodies of these victims of the flood came from accessible and inaccessible districts where the flood raged.

The banks of the river, or of the various branches are in many places broken; and on the "South" or "Northward" branches, the streams assumed the appearance of lakes ten, fifteen, or twenty miles in width, while the water was high; and as the bed of the river is higher than the country that was overflowed, the residents of the low lands were helpless in a trap - many having been drowned, and others injured by the falling of their buildings.

One of the relief parties disembarked in a district about ten miles square, containing sixty villages, in which about eight thousand dwellings were destroyed.

Another of the relief parties ascended, on one of the branches of the river, a distance of from forty to fifty miles above the mouth of the three streams, and found similar distress and suffering. The highlands were reached, and the river being there, confined by high hills or mountains for a distance of forty miles, further progress was abandoned by the relief-party, because of swift water.

From a knowledge of the low  
 Country beyond that mountain  
 pass and range, derived from  
 frequent excursions by Minnie,  
 it is believed similar disasters  
 occurred in the Province of Szechwan,  
 but the Szechwanese are unwilling  
 to enable to reach that distant region.  
 The inhabitants deprived of homes,  
 crops, and means of subsistence,  
 are living on the ground, without  
 shelter or ordinary household  
 implements, and with scant sustenance,  
 and limited or temporary supplies  
 of food, dispensed by relief expeditions,  
 are truly in a miserable condition.  
 Their lands are in many places  
 yet submerged; and one of the  
 most deplorable features of the  
 case is the formation of large  
 sand-banks or sand-drifts on  
 what were recently productive fields.  
 It is feared that the deprivation  
 of food, shelter, clothing, and  
 inability to re-establish homes, will  
 be accompanied by pestilence.

The English and American Missionaries have been actively assisting in the labor of distributing relief to the distressed; and their knowledge of the interior, and ability to converse with the natives, gave them opportunities for usefulness which were faithfully improved.

From those who have thus been in the inundated districts, I have learned that the total number of sufferers cannot be estimated below half a million of inhabitants; and that the relief already sent to the distressed will only serve a temporary purpose; as, without assistance, those victims of the flood cannot be re-established as to obtain support from their lands.

Doubtless the Chinese Authorities will aid in restoring the river banks; but the victims of the flood of 1885, in Southern China, will need aid from many channels and sources of benevolence, before they will be able to obtain subsistence from their lands, and former employments.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,  
Charles Seymour,  
M. Consul.



No. 84



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

August 10 1885

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.

TO

Hon. A. A. Alden,

Third Assistant Secretary of State.

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Feas.

SYNOPSIS.

Adulteration of Feas.  
"False" or "lie-teas".

ac  
copy with  
samples  
to Treas  
Sep 26/85



No. 84

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

August 18<sup>th</sup> 1885

Mr. W. H. Wood.

Third Asst. Sec. of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Dispatch No. 62, dated June 9<sup>th</sup> 1885, from the Department of State, instructing me to obtain specimens of leaves which are known to have been used in the adulteration of teas; and to transmit the same together with such information on the subject of adulteration of teas as may be collected, to the Department of State, for the use of the Appraisers Department of the New York Custom House.

(Signed)

2

Since the receipt of that dispatch, I have been endeavoring to obtain samples of leaves and teas which might be of service as indicated in the instructions; but it is a species or kind of information which is not readily or easily obtained. However, I am sure to obtain it, and hope to be able to forward per M. "San Pablo," which leaves Hong Kong on the 22<sup>d</sup> instant for San Francisco, a few samples of "false" or "lie" teas, and false leaves, used in adulteration of teas.

As the dispatch dated June 9<sup>th</sup> 1885 did not reach Canton until August 4<sup>th</sup>, bearing the stamp at Shanghai of July 30<sup>th</sup> 1885; and this reply by the same circuitous route via Shanghai, Nagasaki, and Yokohama, will not go until the "Oceanic" leaves Hong Kong,  
(a)

3

a month hence, unless mailed now to Shanghai, I will take the liberty to state such facts as have been gleaned; and mail the samples marked A. B. C. D, direct, per mail of "San Pablo," as they cannot all be obtained for a few days - some to be had only from Macao. So the samples reach you with this dispatch.

Shipments of tea from Canton and Macao to the United States have been small during the past ten years; and as the kinds produced in the vicinity of these places, and in Southern China, are not suited to the predilections of American consumers in comparison with the teas shipped from Amoy, Foo Chow, Shanghai, Hankow, and Kin-Kiang; there seems to be no probability of considerable shipments of tea from Canton or Macao to the United States in future.

Your instructions, therefore, as applying to the sale of the tea sent to the United States, would  
(or)

4/

it will be of more directly practical effect, if extended to those ports.

But, nevertheless, I shall send you some of the leaves commonly used to mix with genuine tea leaves to cheapen the cost price, and improve the appearance, of a portion of the shipments which go from Canton and Amoy, under the names of "Congou", "Souchong", and "Scented Pekoe", from the bulk of the tea sent to the markets of England, whence it is distributed also to those of the Continent of Europe. Labrid

These leaves are not regarded as deleterious; but impart a better appearance to the "tea", because the <sup>false</sup> leaf is larger than the leaf of the tea; and the mixture cheapens the cost of the article, popularly known as "English breakfast tea", for which there is a demand that cannot be otherwise satisfied, owing to its peculiar flavor, and brightness of leaf. And Labrid

I will also send a specimen of the tea thus treated for English use.

151

I will also send to send specimen of the manufacture, by the use of large parts of boiled rice, whereby the genuine tea dust and powdered refuse of the scented flower, resulting from the process of "firing", are made adhesive and form pellets resembling the shot-like and knobby leaf known as "Scented" (Scented) Caper"; which is extensively consumed in the <sup>British</sup> Coal-mining districts, and where the water is hard and or impregnated with lime stone. This will be labeled "C".

I will also send sample of "false" or "lie tea", prepared wholly of false leaves from a tree known as the "Whampoa", and not containing a particle of tea leaf or tea in any form; but prepared, packed, branded, shipped, sold, and used as Imperial, or Superior Imperial, and sometimes as "Gunpowder Tea". This article goes to France and Spain; and is chiefly consumed in those countries, although some of it is used, medicinally, among the poor in China.

(24)

6/

It is a large bright green leaf, that is not regarded as much as a delicacy or knurthel; but yields a soothing decoction, which is highly valued among the poor of Kame and Lpin; and is sold at all drug stores, and must have many consumers in those countries; from which orders have recently been received by two foreign firms in Canton for over two thousand chests. This sample will be labeled D.

If I get more specimens than I have thus indicated, they will be labeled alphabetically, and if of the same class as previously described, I will add figures to the letters, denoting grades.

Those merchants who have had large experience in the tea trade mention a "false tea" or "lie tea" that is extensively prepared and sold in the "green-tea" district, of which Hankow is the principal market; and doubtless that "false leaf" known as the "Willow Leaf", which is so successfully manipulated in cheapening "green tea", and supplying a marketable "false tea".

(or)

or "lie tea", is the most likely element in the adulteration of green teas.

The cost of these "false teas" is originally about six to seven cents per pound, but with freight, packing, and transportation for market, and all government dues paid, they may cost from ten to fifteen cents per pound. No one has objected to the willow-leaf "false tea" or "lie tea" on the score of its deleterious qualities, but it is denounced by all who are interested in maintaining a correct standard of quality in tea.

It is believed the "green teas" of Japan are extensively adulterated by "false leaves".

The art of adulterating teas by "false leaves", it is said, has not yet reached India.

The best black teas are marketed at Foo-Chow and Amoy. Hankow is the market for the best green teas. The Island of Formosa is regarded as the best black tea district.

As to the prices of teas in China, they take wide range after getting in hands of retailers.

(L1)



8/

In my recent endeavor to obtain a few pounds of my choice "oolong" black tea for family use, with the help of an experienced Chinese dealer, and also with the assistance of an European tea dealer who is a principal taster and tester of teas, I was compelled to pay \$1.75- to \$2.25- per pound for tea that is bought and sold, in larger quantities, at the great tea-markets where shipments are originally made, at from 50 to 70 cents. This is unavoidable, from the fact that there is a demand among the Mandarin and wealthy classes for "the best at any price" equal to the supply.

Tea being, in general use, its benefits are manifold; and it is quite right to guard against the adulteration of a commodity that enters so largely into the ~~consumption~~ <sup>consumption</sup> of life among people of all classes and conditions.

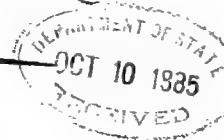
I am, Sir,

Yours obedient servant

Charles Townsend  
U.S. Consul



No. 85



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

August 18-1885

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.

TO

Hon. A. A. Adee.

Third Assistant Secretary of State.

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Cholera in Asia.

SYNOPSIS.

Its career in Eastern Countries.  
Observations of Medical Men.  
Cholera and Cholera Epidemics  
can be prevented. How?  
Prevention is the only means of safety.

No. 85

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

August 18<sup>th</sup> 1885

W. A. A. Adee

Third Asst. Sec. of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to present some facts in regard to Cholera in Asia, gleaned from authentic sources, and worthy of the consideration of guardians of public health in the United States of America, and in Europe.

"Medical reports" are made semi-annually at all of the "Treaty Ports" in China, by foreign physicians, to the Inspector General of the Imperial Maritime Customs.

(There)

✓

These physicians are employed by that Department of the Chinese Government, to attend to the sanitary interests of all its officials and employees; and are generally recognized in their respective localities as the leading or principal physicians of the several "Foreign Communities". They are educated gentlemen, well prepared for, and wholly devoted to, their profession.

These "Custom Medical Officers" at the various ports are required, in semi-annual reports, to give the results of their observations upon the local peculiarities of disease; and upon diseases rarely or never encountered out of China. These reports are entrusted to a highly competent and experienced physician, Dr. Alexander Jamieson, of Shanghai, for compilation.

(The)

3

The requirements of the Customs Department upon the Medical Officers include the following.

Report upon the General Health; the death rate; Classification of the causes of death; Diseases, general; General type of Disease; peculiarities and complications encountered; special treatment demanded; relation of Disease to season, attention to local conditions such as Drainage, &c., and attention to climatic conditions; peculiar Diseases especially Leprosy; and the absence or presence, causes, ~~causes~~, treatment and fatality of Epidemics; Other points, of a general or special kind, interesting to medical men, are commended to the attention of the Medical Officers.

The year's reports are divided into two sections - for the "Winter Season," from 1<sup>st</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> March; and for the "Summer Season," from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> September.

Japan has for many years had the benefit of an able and discerning Board of Health, and General <sup>Home</sup> Hospitals, under the direction of talented and experienced foreign physicians. The Chairman of the Yokohama <sup>Foreign</sup> Board of Health, Dr. J. B. Simmons, has contributed much valuable information on the Cholera Epidemics in Japan, and also those of China and India, with reference to the comprehensive subject of Cholera in Asia.

(Main,)

Many of the physicians in Japan and China have acquired practical knowledge of the diseases of India; and all have occasion to become familiar with the peculiarities of "Cholera Epidemic" in the three countries - India, China and Japan, because of intimate intercourse between those countries, and <sup>often</sup> influence upon one another.

Thus it may be seen that much valuable knowledge can be obtained from and through these sources and channels of information.

From what I have been able to glean from those "Medical Reports", and from authentic statements of foreigners accustomed to visit the ports of Japan, China, <sup>Malacca</sup> ~~Malacca~~, both in China, the ~~East~~ <sup>East</sup> India, Philippine Islands, &c; as well as from a careful observation of current events in the "East"; it seems as though Cholera, in one form or another, is, more or less, prevalent at some of the ports of these Oriental Countries a portion of every year; and that when any special mention is made of the Cholera Epidemic of any particular year, <sup>and usually</sup> it implies that the disease then and there assumed a virulent form, and consequently ~~fatal~~ <sup>fatal</sup> (While)

7

While physicians in all countries seem to differ as to the nature and degree of Choleraic symptoms; it is common to speak of two kinds - "wet" and "dry" Cholera, in the Orient.

It was especially noticeable in the numerous cases of death by Cholera, that occurred in Canton during the Spring of the present year, there was only a brief duration of illness; which was not generally accompanied by vomiting and purging; but by a painful cramp in the stomach and abdomen; which lasted sometimes a few hours, and sometimes only a few minutes; but the victims, in all nearly all cases, were persons (natives) who had scant clothing to cover their bodies while sleeping in chilly nights after mild and warm days; and who had no regular supplies of food; and devoured unripe fruits to appease hunger; during the Spring months; when the <sup>variation in</sup> temperature of the days and the nights was greater than in other months of the year. It was a "home-made" sort of Cholera. (That)



That epidemic passed away with the return of the "Southern Monsoon", and regularity of temperature, and ripen fruit.

Cholera of the more Asiatic type has appeared, and still prevails, it several of the Chinese ports, notably at Hong Kong; but no stringent quarantine regulations have been found necessary.

India has been, is, and will continue to be, the source of the scourge known as "Asiatic Cholera". It is the natural and cultivated breeding place of Cholera. The "flow of life" westward from India being greater than the eastward flow from that hot-bed of Cholera, the remark has often been made that "Cholera always travels westward, and never eastward"; but it is <sup>only</sup> apparently true, because of the excess of the "flow of life" westward from India, over that which comes eastward to China and Japan.

(Tongue)

A

Tongquin, which has been overrun in all directions by Chinese, French, and native "Black Flag" Armies, for the past year or two, has also become a competitor of India in the cultivation and distribution of Cholera, and made the "first delivery" of Cholera in Europe in 1884 at the port of Marseilles.

From India and Tongquin the supply of Cholera will continue to exceed the demand; and in the future, as heretofore, Cholera will enter Europe at French and Italian ports, which are the first European ports reached by the "flow of life" from the sources of that disease.

Cholera has been successfully controlled in its visitations to China and Japan; although the loss of life was great in Japan before the "Board of Health" imposed restraints upon its destructive operations, in the memorable Cholera Epidemics of 1877-79.

(The)

The great "Cholera epidemic of India in 1817", which had its origin in Bengal, extended up the Ganges as far as Allahabad, and up the Brahmaputra from Dacca, north-west to Ringpore, whence it travelled to the borders of Tibet and North-western China. In 1820 Cholera again reached China, appearing first at Canton that epidemic having originated in the Eastern Coast of Hindostan, thence it was carried by British troops to Burmah, during the war with that nation; then to Bangkok in Siam, and Canton ~~in China~~, and radiating to the interior of China, following the valley of the Yangtze to the heart of the Chinese Empire - reaching Peking in 1821 where it reproduced itself in 1822 and 1823 and formed the center of infection in North Asia. In 1826 Cholera was again brought from India to China - reaching Peking, swept through Mongolia, and eventually travelled to Moscow, in Russia.

4

In 1840 the Government of India dispatched a combined European and native army to China in the interest of the Opium trade. This force carried with it the seeds of Cholera, which reached Peking, and followed the track of the caravans into Russia. The statistical report of the health of the British Navy for 1868 mentions that in 1841 Cholera appeared in an malignant form in Singapore, and that in 1842-3 it was more ~~and~~ than usually prevalent in the British East India Squadron.

No record of the disease appears for the next fifteen years; ~~but in 1856~~ but, as appears by that report, Cholera again appeared in an epidemic form in China, and continued year after year until 1857. Cholera reached Japan in 1858, and again in 1861-2. Between 1867 and 1877 there is no account of a Cholera Epidemic in either China or Japan.

(The)

10

The history of the Cholera epidemic in Japan in 1877-79 is interesting and instructive; and as the climate and physical features of that country are more like those of North America than are China and India; and as the career of the disease in all three of these Oriental countries is inseparable from its progress in Japan, let us get all possible light from Dr. Simmons, Chairman of the <sup>Yokohama</sup> Board of Health, whose report is full of information, as embodied in the Chinese Medical Reports of 1879. From his tabular statements, shaded map, and descriptive narration, it appears that cholera was introduced into <sup>Yokohama</sup> Japan, about the middle of August 1877, by an English "Man-of-war," from Amoy, China. In September 1877 about 200 warfolies were victims of cholera, while being transported from Nagasaki to Yokohama and Odessa.

(Of)

Of the three years, 1879 was the  
 worst during that cholera epidemic;  
 and in that year there were 184,274  
 known cases, of which 97,422 were fatal.  
 The percentage of mortality being 59.30.  
 The knowledge gained during that ordeal  
 is valuable. Dr. Simmons says "The principal  
 disinfectants used were Carbolic acid,  
 and a solution of Sulphurous acid."  
 He adds, "I am disposed, however, to  
 think that too much importance is often  
 attached to the value of disinfectants generally,  
 for the reason that they are rarely used  
 in sufficient quantities, especially where  
 price is taken into account. The same  
 amount of money expended in furnishing  
 a good drinking-water supply;  
 isolation of the sick; and a proper  
 disposition of the night soil; would  
 unquestionably prove more effective.  
 A large number of facts were  
 gathered, showing, as usually observed,  
 that the great routes of travel were  
 the principal means of spreading  
 the disease from one part of the country  
 (to)

to another. That a contaminated drinking-water supply was the immediate cause of an extended prevalence of the sickness, in a number of large country towns especially, was demonstrated with great certainty. The places of this description which suffered most in this section of the Japanese Empire were, in nearly every instance, located at the foot of mountains where the custom of directing streams of water through the streets was followed - this supply being too often used both for drinking and laundry purposes. A marked instance of contamination of wells by latrines was shown in the low-lying town of Hsiamen. The disease had already attacked a large number of its inhabitants, and was daily increasing. A Commission sent by the local government closed all the wells, (and)

and had a supply of good water brought  
 in from the sea for the use of the entire population,  
 a measure which resulted in a complete  
 disappearance of the disease in a few days.  
 Some of the best talent which Japan affords,  
 both native and foreign, was called in consultation  
 in this epidemic crisis of local boards  
 of health, in formulating the program of  
 cholera epidemic, by observing and applying  
 sanitary measures; while the Imperial  
 treasury ~~afforded~~ the means for promptly  
 executing necessary plans, and thus the  
 population were relieved of the burden;  
 and efficient action was secured by  
 prompt and concurrent efforts of  
 the "Central <sup>Sanitary Bureau</sup> and Local Boards of  
 Health throughout the Empire.

Dr. Siamon puts great stress on the contamination  
 of earth and water supply, and the necessity of  
 pure water for drinking purposes. He says—

Some very interesting instances have been  
 reported by my assistants, who had been sent  
 at intervals to districts of the Province  
 of Kanagawa to watch the advance of  
 the pestilence, to instruct the native physicians

(11)



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in its treatment, and circulate information. One of these cases being of more than usual importance, ~~it~~ <sup>it</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> ~~officially~~ <sup>officially</sup> ~~recorded~~ <sup>recorded</sup> it.

A farmer brought a load of grain to market, and having disposed of it, remained over night at the house of a merchant where a case of Cholera had occurred a few days previously. On the second day after his return home, a distance of 15 to 20 miles, he was taken with vomiting and ~~pung~~ <sup>pung</sup> diarrhea. His stools were thrown into a sluggish stream passing near his habitation and also flowing close by a number of houses some yards distant. Here Cholera broke out a few days after the sufferer's return, no cases having appeared in that locality previously. Upon investigation it was found that the stream, during periods of heavy rain, overflowed its banks, thus permitting its water to penetrate into the wells about; and, as no cases occurred in the valley about the first patient's residence, it is quite clear that the poison was disseminated in the manner indicated.

(Observations)

A

~~Observations~~ as to the influence of rain on the progress of the epidemic showed that when showers were falling slowly, no marked change was noticeable in the disease rate; but when the same fall was heavy for a few successive hours, a rapid rise invariably followed on the fourth or fifth day afterwards. This I account for by the fact that the drains of the native town are surface ones, and that the excess of water caused them to overflow and contaminate the wells. So overwhelmingly is the evidence in support of the theory that Cholera is propagated by means of the excreta or vomit of those suffering from the disease, that it would be a waste of words to reconsider the question here. In the same way, it is superfluous to do more than take it for granted that drinking water is by far the most common medium for the transport and dissemination of infection. The first point which presents itself is the source of water supply; and the second, the disposition of night soil. "There are important facts; and are as applicable to America as Japan."

(21)

In Japan the sources of water supply are generally, from wells, springs, and natural streams, as in China; ~~where there is greater immunity~~ from Cholera epidemic than in other countries of the Orient, because it is customary and almost universal to boil water before drinking it; and where thirst is generally slaked by sipping a small cup of tea. The best population of Canton, and perhaps of other Chinese ports, should be excepted from that statement, partly; as the boat-men and boat-women freely use, for drinking and cooking, as well as for laundry purposes, the filthy water from streams, into which sewers from populous cities enter, and have the appearance of health, elasticity & buoyancy, with great power of endurance, on a diet of rice, fish, and vegetables. In Japan the disposal of the "night-soil" is somewhat different from that in China.

(2)

4

In both countries it is carefully saved and utilized as fertilizing material in the cultivation of crops; and nothing that will enrich the land and increase its fertility is wasted; but the manner of its treatment is different in China from that in Japan, although the same result is obtained - viz: the fermentation or rotting of the excreta by deposit in tubs or covered heaps before applying it to the soil; which, measurably at least, and perhaps wholly, kills the germs of Cholera, and prevents infection.

In Japan the excreta is deposited in oil-tubs or close tanks buried in the ground until the time of applying it to the soil; and these deposits are often under, and always near the domicile; but in China the excreta is generally deposited in a large earthen dish within a square and tightly covered by which is daily emptied and cleaned by the scavenger, who conveys the excreta to the larger depository, or heap for fermentation or rotting, preparatory to use in fertilizing the land. The Chinese plan is obviously the better and safer one.

(51)

18

The Hindu, as an individual, is the  
 epitome of ~~the Hindu~~ ~~the Hindu~~  
 the individual. He is always an  
 complete Hindu, and is usually  
 found part of the marriage outfit.  
 India presents a religion, which, in  
 contrast with that of the world as found in  
 Japan and China, is a religion of the  
 disposition and treatment of human flesh,  
 a religion of serious mischief and of  
 evil and misery. It is estimated that 75,000,000,  
 or the eighth of the population of India  
 depend on the ground. The Hindu cannot  
 stand to see the butchers, & the cities, he  
 has a hole in his habitations; and in the night,  
 he erects the field, the hill side, the banks  
 of streams or rivers, when obeying the dictates  
 of the Hindu. The Hindu has described the  
 sufferings and misery of the vast crowd  
 of nations who make pilgrimages extending  
 hundreds of miles to and from "the great festival"  
 at which from 10,000 to 20,000 miserable pilg-  
 ers assemble, scattering the germs of disease  
 and death along their route, & carrying to the  
 homes "putrid holy food," or becoming food for dogs and

(Wm.)

When those pilgrims who have not died on the road arrive at their journey's end, emaciated, with feet bound in rags and plastered with blood and dirt, they rush into "the sacred tanks" or the sea, and emerge to dress in clean garments. Disease and death make havoc with them during their stay. Corpses are buried in holes scooped in the sands, and the hillocks are covered with bones and skulls washed from their shallow graves by the tropical rains, which prevail at that time, as the "Car festival of Juggernaut" occurs in the midst of "the rainy season", in June or July. The temple kitchen has a monopoly of cooking, for the multitude, food, which must be consecrated before "Juggernaut" and become "sacred" before it is eaten — thus exposing food for forty-eight hours in the sun until it undergoes putrefactive fermentation, and is too loathsome for nutriment.

Fully one <sup>half</sup> of the pilgrims who reach the festival are suffering from bowel complaint. Badly as they are fed, they are worse lodged.

W. W. Hunter, in his Orissa, says that "the scenes of agony and suffocation in these hideous dens baffle description".  
(Cholera)

10

"Cholera", he says, "invariably brutal".  
Living and dead are huddled together, under  
a leaking roof, above a reeking cess-pool,  
~~and with no more space to lie on than~~  
their bodies can cover."

The Bishop of Calcutta says - "there is  
no end to the recurrence of incidents of  
misery and humiliation, the horrors of which  
are unutterable; but which are eclipsed  
by those of the return journey."

Bishop Wilson estimated that  
50,000 lives are lost in one of these  
Indian pilgrimages, of which there are  
several annually; so that Cholera  
has abundant opportunities for spreading  
over the whole of Hindustan every year  
by many huge armies of filthy pilgrims,  
and the Country well deserves the reputation  
it has of being the birth-place and settled home  
of the malady."

Among the medical prac-  
titioners of India, China, and Japan,  
great diversity of opinion has been  
expressed in regard to the extent to  
which "germ-laden dust" disseminates, &c.  
(The)

The ~~main~~ doctrine of Chalmers is that, with little importance being attached to the purity of water itself, for drinking purposes; which is actually and ably promoted by the "Hygienists" as the most effective means of arresting the progress of the disease as an epidemic. Dr. Thomson, whose observations and experience in Japan should give great value to his opinion, says - "With reference to the 'dust infection' theory, we opine that on view of the facts there is sufficient reason to justify it. The air of Hindustan, especially during the dry season, may well be poisoned by the germs it takes up and wafts higher and further with the breeze. In India, the poison which the excreta contain may effectually impregnate its victims by means of two vehicles of propagation, namely, water and air. In Western regions its medium is water only, the 'night-soil' being collected in vaults or pits, or washed into rivers & waterways."

(Huxel)



12

Hence the divided opinion as to the source or cause of the disease among observers in the one case; their unity of belief in the other. While the habits and customs of the three Eastern nations differ in the primary deposit of the night soil, yet ultimately the substance is in each case introduced to the same gate - that of exposure on the surface of the soil. In this position, then, it may be asked, not ~~at~~ much a cause of spread of the epidemic in China and Japan as in India, by dust as well as by contamination of the water after the filth has been so disposed of?

A negative answer to this question may be properly returned and upheld by a very tenable hypothesis to establish which we must briefly consider at what period of their existence the Cholera germs are noxious.

The question whether they are capable of producing infection at the moment of passing from an individual suffering from the disease or whether a certain period of fermentation is necessary, has been often raised by investigators (That

That a certain amount of parasitism  
 at least favors their development and  
 increase is undoubted; but it is  
 equally certain that the natural  
 history of the protozoocytes tends  
 so that their exuberant growth may be  
 brought to an end, even when at the height  
 of their destructive activity, by the  
 development of other and harmless  
 parasites. Now, in India, the  
 oocysts are deposited direct from the  
 body on to the soil, not in manure,  
 but in separate spots; thence they  
 are either gradually washed into water  
 supplies, or dried in the sun.  
 In either case the germs are  
 carried hither and thither rapidly  
 and in great numbers, with their  
 infectious principles latent,  
 or, in a greater or less degree or condition  
 of development. In China and  
 Japan the right-soil is first lodged  
 in various kinds of receptacles.  
 When favored by confinement in conical  
 manure, it produces fermentation in various degrees,  
 (some)

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Some of which lead to the development of other kinds the Cholera-paritigra. The longer and more complete the fermentation, the greater the chance of the destruction of the infectious germs by parasites inimical to the human system, which thus renders the whole mass harmless as a means of propagating disease, even though particles may be taken up by the air or water and broadly disseminated. Considering that almost without exception the manure is stored for a considerable time (not less than from 8 to 10 days) before use by the farmer in China or Japan, and that in the receptacles the Cholera-infected stools mast, in the vast majority of cases, be but a small portion of the whole, it is easy to see how the harmless products of the entire fermentation will quickly gain the mastery over the specific ones of the Cholera stools.

(Thus)

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There is an idea at an apparent solution of the question why the night-soil, spread on the fields of China and Japan as a fertilizer, does not produce infectious results, even though originally mixed with matter containing cholera germs; and why in India the infected stools are, through their early deposition on the soil, active agents in the propagation of the pestilence. My repeated tastings of the liquid manure in the vats of the peasants, while undergoing this preparation for use, during the hot season, have shown a slight acid reaction. Should this experience be borne out by further observation, we should find still another explanation of this supposed destruction of the Cholera germs, as the power of acids to arrest their development, if not to destroy them altogether, is thoroughly recognized. Hence it may be assumed that Cholera evacuations are dangerous in proportion to their freshness, or the limited amount of fermentation to which they have been subjected. (This)

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This position may be strengthened by further evidence, negative, it is true; but not without much value. The manifestation of <sup>the</sup> disease has not been as extensive in the rural districts of Japan as in the large cities, towns and villages. Where Cholera declared itself, it has been, in nearly every case, directly traceable to a contaminated water supply. The devastation has been much less considerable in the plains than at the foot of mountains or in valleys, where the water supply has been derived from brooks which are led through the streets, and so are liable to contamination by leakage from closets, or the practice of washing garments in them.

Taking into consideration the geographical position of China and Japan, the one touching, though her tributaries, the confines of the very hearth of the disease the other enjoying all the advantages of which insular affords, confers, we thus find that Japan has relatively been more frequently and severely visited than China. This is to be explained solely by the fact that a very bad latrine system, one which permits overflow, leakage, and filthiness, and consequent contamination of wells, obtains in Japan a condition of things which does not prevail in China, a country where hygienic conditions in other respects is far in advance of Japan.

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One very important fact is recorded of the Cholera Epidemic of 1877-79 in Japan. viz: "The foreign town of Yokohama suffered but little, only two fatal cases in the calamitous year of 1879. It is a somewhat remarkable fact that the so-called "China-town" (part of Yokohama), where some 2,000 of Chinese are crowded in badly constructed dwellings, and abounding in filth, escaped the disease as in 1877, probably for the same reason, viz; that their drinking-water <sup>was</sup> from a source of undoubted purity."

That fact is the more surprising, when, upon reference to the tabular returns of disease and mortality in the various towns, cities, and provinces of Japan, we find that in 1879 alone, 3166 deaths by Cholera occurred in the Province of Kanagawa, in which Yokohama and Yokio are located. more than one half of the deaths having occurred in Yokio, only twenty miles distant from Yokohama, with constant and intimate communication between the two cities. In Yokio the first manifestation of Cholera was in the neighborhood of the landing used by the crews of fishing-boats from Yokohama; and the disease was most severe in the vicinity of the fish-market.

(Continued)

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Cremation was almost universal in localities where the Epidemic was most successfully conquered. The epidemic, which was most destructive in 1879, broke out by the Government opening the graves of soldiers who died in 1877 of Cholera in the southern part of the largest island of Japan, for certain religious purposes, and to bury more decently those who had been hastily interred. If cremation had been adopted there, as in some other localities, the calamity of 1879 would have been averted. Cremation cells or vaults are seen in Oriental Countries in rear of Buddhist Temples; where the Buddhist priests are ~~are~~ cremated, as well as their zealous followers. China is our vast country, after the interval of over a hundred generations of its inhabitants; but with characteristic utilitarianism, the Chinese select broken or rough lands for burial places, which are visible on the side-hills in all directions.

In some localities negligence in regard to burials is observable. Generally they are carefully attended to  
(But,

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But the Chinese Coffin, in common use, prevents offensive or dangerous odors from bodies of deceased human creatures; and is a marvelously effective contrivance to prevent drainage from burial fields on hill-sides from contaminating streams of water. Coffins containing deceased persons may rest for weeks and months, submerged, until the selected times and places of interment may be agreed upon and known by the family or clan that has been bereaved; but no odor escapes from the Coffin. The wood of which it is made is the hardest procurable; several inches thick; the several parts tightly ground together, or "don-tailed"; joints cemented inside and outside with chunam; and made completely air-tight and water-tight; while the corpse is often wrapped in Cotton wool; and all the spaces between it and the wood filled with Cement.

Thus while the Chinese seem to be ignorant of the science of medicine and surgery, and know little of anatomy and physiology, they have and maintain many of the essential laws of hygiene and sanity.  
(No misunderstanding)



10.  
Notwithstanding the "local-origin" theory which is strongly maintained by the official sanitary staff in India respecting Cholera, as found in Dangerous Major Diseases, the introduction of " Asiatic Cholera "

into Chinese ports is usually traceable to arrivals of ships from infected ports of the South; as was the case when Cholera became so destructive on the island of Hainan in 1881 and 1882, after the arrival <sup>in July 1881</sup> of a ship from Bangkok, Siam, where Cholera prevailed; and landing 270 Chinese passengers at the port of Hichow, the chief port of the island; at which time ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> in the Commander District of Canton.

Dr. Aldridge, of Hichow, says - " I found that most of those who died had obtained their drinking water from wells situated either in their yards, or within a short distance of the street doors.

I also heard that the disease proved fatal to many who had over-fatigued themselves by being up most of the night, sitting or standing, exposed to the night air in front of the Chinese theatres; and who had afterwards returned home, and after drinking large quantities of water and eating unripe fruit, such as pine-apple and water-melon, had then gone to sleep in the open air, only ~~scarcely~~ <sup>scarcely</sup> dead! is worthy of remark that out of 400 deaths in Hichow (with a population of 200,000) only one (death)

Death by Cholera occurred among the numerous Cantonese residents, whose mode of living is more closely than that of the natives of the same island, and we were caught about fruit and water. These facts harmonize with the history of the Cholera-epidemic of 1877-79 in Japan as given by Dr. Williams.

Undoubtedly Cholera can be made or originated at any of the sea-ports of the Orient, by either of two processes, of which abundant evidence is supplied.

One of these processes was in full operation at Canton during the months of April and May in the present year, when natives who had scant supplies of food and clothing, after exposure to the night air during the variable temperature of those months and the preceding month of March, gorged themselves with ripe fruit, and drank impure water, from streams into which sewage, flushed by the Spring tropical rains of Spring, poured the accumulated filth of several months of drought. The victims of the disease were very few outside of the class above described. The epidemic was temporary; and is of annual recurrence among the same class of natives.

(The )

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The other process is usually worked out by seamen who are periodically turned loose from war-ships in ports, when "men are given their liberty" for a few days, after prolonged confinement on board ships.

The expenses in debauchery which invariably attend these "periods of liberty" in Oriental sea-ports, where brothels, gambling ~~houses~~, frequented by sailors "during liberty", are supplied with the vilest of compounds as liquors for beverage, and little or no regard paid to food, are too loathsome to be described; and these "seasons of liberty" to sailors are breeding or spawning seasons for disease, pestilence, and death. From one port to another these "men-of-war", and other ships, go; and at one and all of the sea-ports the same round of brutishness occurs under the plea of "giving men their liberty".

(20)

Is it any wonder, then, that ships arriving in port are credited with the introduction of Cholera from other ports, when the manufacturers or originators of the disease are the crews of ships thus fitted to carry pestilence around the world?

Fortunate, indeed, would it be for all concerned, if the only disease thus distributed were cholera, which is subject to control; but other and more loathsome and incurable diseases, such as syphilis, leprosy, plague, and the numerous diseases so prevalent in Oriental and tropical sea ports, and Asiatic Countries, are thus transferred to European and American Countries, whose navies, designed for national safety, become vehicles or media for the introduction of evils of incalculable injury. One European "Man-of-War", with less than one hundred men, went out of the Port of Canton, after a sojourn of a few weeks, <sup>in 1884</sup> with sixty five cases of syphilitic diseases; from which scarcely ten per cent of the population of Canton, and some other Asiatic sea ports, are absolutely free.

(21)

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Dr. Alexander Jamieson, of Shanghai, who has indirectly watched the movements of Cholera in the various countries of Asia; and made himself, and the Customs Medical Staff of China; acquainted with the fullest information, derivable from the ablest epidemiologists of the world; and from the various Sanitary Boards who give <sup>him</sup> the results of their observation in regard to Cholera and other epidemics ~~also~~ in his report for 1878-79. —

\* The pathology of Cholera is far from being well worked out, but as a clinical fact it is undeniable that the course of symptoms in malignant Cholera and in Cholera morbus is precisely the same

xxx "On reading over the cases one cannot fail to be struck by the fact that many began by a debauch, and many were immediately preceded by long exposure, presumably, a state of drunkenness, to night air." xxx

"The fact is <sup>most significant that the</sup> overwhelming majority of cases were furnished by sailors, a class of men reckless, prone to excesses, homeless on shore, unsuitably clad and fed, and especially likely to suffer from impure water and fiery adulterated liquor." xxx

In 1881 he said — "Whatever be the ultimate cause of the disease, its incidence upon individuals is due to neglect of ordinary and obvious hygienic precautions

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In his report of 1881-2, Jamieson said:  
 "Year by year the same rule is observed,  
 that it is only those who expose themselves  
 without precaution to sudden changes of  
 temperature, or to miasmas arising  
 from the ground within and around houses  
 in the worst parts of the native quarters,  
 or who have committed imprudence  
 in eating and drinking, or are the  
 subjects of chronic alcoholism,  
 that present the group of often  
 fatal symptoms, which it  
 would be inconsistent to call Cholera,  
 were it not that most people  
 associate with this term the idea  
 of epidemicity, and therefore of  
 inevitableness. The five fatal cases  
 of cholera that occurred <sup>during the five years</sup> during  
 the six months from October 1<sup>st</sup> 1881  
 to April 30<sup>th</sup> 1882 were sailors."

In his report of 1882-3 he said -  
 "Every year has witnessed the  
 recurrence of a disease which, though  
 rightly qualified as Cholera, bears no  
 relation to any known epidemic waves."  
 (The)

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The conditions which call it into activity ~~from~~ seem to be local and personal. Local, because of their independence of contagion brought from outside ~~or~~ of epidemic waves; personal, ~~inasmuch~~ as almost every case can be in part explained by some avoidable error, dietetic or other. It is probable, though not proved, that once established, the malarial is communicable by the intestinal excretions of the ~~patient~~. In his report of 1883, while directing nearly twenty pages to information elicited by investigations into the Cholera in Egypt, and various parts of Asia, by scientific <sup>and practical</sup> celebrities of Europe and Asia, Dr. Jamieson makes the following significant statements. x x x "In face of the failure of all methods of treatment the only profitable direction which efforts to check Cholera can take is that of prevention". x x x "Abandoning all theory, experience teaches that wherever those conditions are (fulfilled)

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fulfilled which, since the dawn of civilization, have been, at least in words, acknowledged as the most favorable in a general way to health, here Cholera takes no root, or drifts dies.

Conversely, under these insanitary conditions, which, during years of freedom from epidemic disease, are allowed to accumulate and become more and more aggravated, Cholera, at irregular intervals, breaks out, and spreads indefinitely. x x x

Whatever, either from the moral or from the physical side, depresses the general health, is favorable to the progress of Cholera."

No date has been found of the extent or prevalence of Cholera, or of the numbers of its victims, in countries between China and India; but it is known that it prevailed in Siam and the Malayan Peninsula in 1881; in the Philippine Islands, Cochin China in 1882; Annam and Tonquin in 1882-'83, '84, '85, and seems to be "at home" in that afflicted region. It also appeared in Japan in 1882.

(Cholera)



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Cholera was more malignant in the Philippine Islands in 1882 than elsewhere at any time known.

According to Dr. Macgowan's statement, under the heading of "Notes of an Epidemic of 1882", in the "Clinique Medical Report" of 1882-83, "near Manila (Philippines), out of 1,099, who were attacked in one day, only 105 survived - the cases proving fatal generally, in two hours."

That was, indeed, a serious affair, when only 1/11<sup>th</sup> of those attacked survived.

The Department of State probably has some record of that event, which, occurring at the time of a destructive earthquake, and several disastrous typhoons, caused a newly arrived Consul to tender his resignation and vacate his post, without waiting to hear whether his retirement from official life had the approval or disapproval of his Government.

(811)

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In thus gleaning and preserving, from authentic sources of information, important facts in regard to Cholera and Cholera epidemics in Asia, which will occasionally force themselves upon the attention of Western Nations, I have refrained from mentioning the results of various modes of treatment of the disease; because those who should be most skillful and learned on this point do not evince very strong faith in any of the many suggestions or systems known to the medical profession; and also because medical science in Europe and America is supposed to be in advance of that in Asia.

Prevention seems to be the chief point; and that is obviously practicable.

With the hope, that, by the light of the experience of Eastern Countries, in which Cholera has prevailed too often, Americans and Europeans may adopt measures to prevent that insatiable disease from taking an epidemic form in America and Europe; I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour  
McDonald

Subject. — Cholera and Sanitary Hygiene in Asia.

No. 85.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

August 15<sup>th</sup> 1885.

Hon. A. A. Adee

Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to present some facts in regard to Cholera in Asia, gleaned from authentic sources, and worthy of consideration of guardians of public health in the United States of America, and in Europe.

"Medical reports" are made semi-annually at all of the "Treaty Ports" in China, by foreign physicians, to the Inspector General of the Imperial Maritime Customs.

These physicians are employed by that Department of the Chinese Government, to attend to the sanitary interests of all its officials and employees; and are generally recognized in their respective localities as the leading or principal physicians of the several foreign communities. They are generally thoroughly educated gentlemen, well prepared for, and wholly devoted to, their profession.

These "Customs Medical officers" at the various ports are required, in their semi-annual reports, to give "the results of their observations upon the local peculiarities of disease; and upon diseases rarely or <sup>never</sup> ~~seldom~~ encountered out of China."

Their reports are entrusted to a highly competent and experienced physician, Dr. <sup>Harold</sup> Jamieson, <sup>of Shanghai,</sup> for compilation and arrangement.

The requirements of the Customs Department upon the Medical

officers include the following points.

Reports upon "the general health; the death rate; classification of the causes of death; diseases prevalent; general type of diseases; peculiarities and complications encountered; special treatment demanded; relation of disease to season, alteration in local conditions - such as drainage, etc, and alteration in climatic conditions; peculiar diseases - especially leprosy; and the absence or presence, causes, course, treatment and fatality of epidemics." Other points of a general or special kind, interesting to medical men, are commended to the attention of these "Medical officers".

The year's reports are divided into two sections - for the "Winter season", from 1<sup>st</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> March; and for the "Summer season", from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> September.

Japan has for many years had the benefit of an able and discerning Board of Health, and General and Local Hospitals, under the direction of talented and experienced foreign physicians. The Chairman of the Yokohama Foreign Board of Health, Dr. D. B. Simmons, has contributed much valuable information on the "Cholera Epidemics in Japan", and also those of China and India, with reference to the comprehensive subject of Cholera in Asia.

Many of the physicians in Japan and China have acquired practical knowledge of the diseases of India; and all have occasion to become familiar with the peculiarities of "Cholera Epidemics" in the three countries. India, China and Japan, because of intimate intercourse between those countries, and their influence upon one another.

Thus it may be seen that much valuable knowledge can be obtained from and through these sources and channels of information.

From what I have been able to glean from these "Medical Reports,"

and from authentic statements of foreigners accustomed to visit the ports of Japan, China, Tonquin, Cochin China, the Straits, India, Philippine Islands, etc., as well as from a careful observation of current events in the "East," it seems as though Cholera, in one form or another, is, more or less, prevalent at some of the ports of these Oriental countries a portion of every year; and that when any special mention is made of the "Cholera Epidemic" of any particular year or locality, it implies that the disease then and there assumed a virulent form, and caused great fatality.

While physicians in all countries seem to differ as to the nature and degree of choleraic symptoms; it is common to speak of two kinds - "wet and dry" Cholera, in the Orient.

It was especially noticeable in the numerous cases of death by cholera, that occurred in Canton during the spring of the present year, there was only a brief duration of illness; which was not generally accompanied by vomiting and purging; but by a painful cramp in the stomach and abdomen; which lasted sometimes a few hours, and sometimes only a few minutes; but the victims, in nearly all cases, were persons (natives) who had scanty clothing to cover their bodies while sleeping in chilly nights, after mild and warm days; and who had no regular supplies of food; and devoured unripe fruit to appease hunger, during the spring months; when the variation in temperature, of the days and nights was greater than in other months of the year. ~~Some~~ <sup>as of home-made soft of chocolate</sup>

That epidemic passed away with the return of the "Lushun Monsoon," and regularity of temperature, and ripe fruit.

Cholera of the more Asiatic type has appeared, and still prevails, at several of the Chinese ports; and notably at Hong Kong; but no stringent quarantine regulations have been deemed necessary.

India has been, is, and will continue to be, the source of the scourge known as "Asiatic Cholera". It is the natural and cultivated "breeding-place" of Cholera. The "flow of life" westward from India being greater than the eastward flow from that hot-bed of Cholera, the remark has often been made that "Cholera always travels westward, and never eastward," but it is only apparently true, because the excess of the "flow of life" westward from India, over that which comes eastward to China and Japan.

Tongkin, which has been over-run in all directions by Chinese, French, and native "Black Flag" armies, for the past year ~~and~~ two, has also become a competitor of India in the cultivation and distribution of Cholera; and made the "first delivery" of Cholera in Europe in 1884 at the port of Marseilles.

From India and Tongkin the supply of Cholera will continue to exceed the demand; and in the future, as heretofore, Cholera will enter Europe at French and Italian ports, which are the first European ports reached by the "flow of life" from the sources of that disease.

Cholera has been successfully controlled in its visitations to China and Japan; although the loss of life was greater in Japan before the "Board of Health" imposed restrictions upon its destructive operations, in the memorable Cholera epidemics of 1877-79.

The great "Cholera epidemic of India in 1817," which had its origin in Bengal, extended up the Ganges as far as Allahabad, and up the Bramaputra from Decca, north-east to Rangoon, whence it travelled to the borders of Tibet and south-western China.

In 1820 Cholera again reached China, appearing first at Canton, that epidemic having originated in the eastern coast of Hindostan;

5.  
thence it was carried by British troops to Burmah, during the war with that nation; then to Bangkok in Siam, and Canton, and radiating to the interior of China, following the valley of the Yangtze to the heart of the Chinese Empire - reaching Peking in 1881, where it reproduced itself in 1822 and 1823, and formed the center of infection in Northern Asia. In 1826 Cholera was again brought from India to China - reached Peking, swept through Mongolia, and eventually travelled to Moscow in Russia.

In 1840 the Government of India dispatched a combined European and native army to China in the interest of the opium trade. This force carried with it the seeds of Cholera, which reached Peking, and followed the track of the caravans into Russia. The statistical report of the health of the British Navy for 1868 mentions that in 1841 Cholera appeared in a malignant form in Ningpo, and and that in 1842-3 it was more than usually prevalent in the British East India squadron.

No record of the disease appears for the next fifteen years; but, as appears by that report, Cholera again appeared in an epidemic form in China, and continued year after year until 1867. Cholera reached Japan in 1858, and again in 1861-2.

Between 1867 and 1877 there is no account of a cholera epidemic in either China or Japan.

The history of the Cholera epidemic of Japan in 1877-79 is interesting and instructive; and as the climatic and physical features of that country are more like those of North America than are China and India; and as the career of the disease in all three of these Oriental countries is inseparable from its progress in Japan, let us get all possible light from Dr. Simmons, Chairman of

the Yokohama Board of Health, whose report is full of information, as embodied in the Chinese Medical Reports of 1879. From his tabular statements, shaded maps, and descriptive narrative, it appears that Cholera was introduced into Nagasaki, Japan, about the middle of August 1877, by an English "Man-of-War", from Amoy, China. In September 1877 about 200 war-police were victims of cholera, while being transported from Nagasaki to Yokohama & Tokio.

Of the three years, 1879 was the worst during that Cholera epidemic; and in that year there were 164,274 known cases, of which 97,422 were fatal. The knowledge gained during that ordeal is valuable. Dr. Simmons says "the principal disinfectants used were carbolic acid, and a solution of sulphurous acid." He adds - "I am disposed, however, to think that too much importance is often attached to the value of disinfectants generally, for the reason that they are rarely used in sufficient quantities, especially where price is taken into account. The same amount of money expended in furnishing a good drinking-water supply; isolation of the sick; and a proper disposition of the night soil; would unquestionably prove more effective. A large number of facts were gathered, showing, as usually observed, that the great routes of travel were the principal means of spreading the disease from one part of the country to another. That a contaminated drinking-water supply was the immediate cause of an extended prevalence of the malady, in a number of large country towns especially, was demonstrated with great certainty. The places of this description which suffered most in this section of the Japanese Empire were, in nearly every case, located at the foot of mountains, where the custom of directing streams of water through the streets was followed - this supply being too often



used for drinking and laundry purposes.

A marked instance of contamination of wells by latrines was shown in the low-lying town of Misamura. The disease had already attacked a large number of its inhabitants, and was daily increasing. A Commission sent by the local government closed all the wells, and had a supply of good water brought in boats for the ~~entire~~ use of the entire population, a measure which resulted in a complete disappearance of the disease in a few days."

Some of the best talent which Japan affords, both native and foreign, was called in requisition in this special service of local Boards of Health, in preventing the progress of the cholera epidemic, by observing and enforcing sanitary measures; while the Imperial treasury supplied the means for promptly executing necessary plans, and thus the prefectures were relieved of the burden, and efficient action was secured by prompt and concurrent efforts of the Central Sanitary Bureau and Local Boards of Health throughout the Empire.

Dr. Simmons puts great stress on the contamination of wells and water-supply, and the necessity of pure water for drinking purposes. He says - "Some very interesting instances have been reported by my assistants, who had been sent into rural districts of the Province Kanagawa to watch the advance of the pestilence, to instruct the native physicians in its treatment, and circulate information; one of these cases being of more than usual importance, I will specially record it -

A farmer brought a load of grain to market, and having disposed of it, remained over night at the house of a merchant, where a case of cholera had occurred a few days previously. On the

second day after his return home, a distance of 15 to 20 miles, he was taken with vomiting and diarrhea. His stools were thrown into a sluggish stream passing near his habitation and also flowing close by a number of houses some yards distant. Here cholera broke out a few days after the sufferer's return, no case having appeared in that locality previously. Upon investigation it was found that the stream, during periods of heavy rain, overflowed its banks, thus permitting its water to penetrate into the wells about; and, as no cases occurred in the valley above the first patient's residence, it is quite clear that the poison was disseminated in the manner indicated.

Observations as to the influence of rain on the progress of the epidemic showed that when showers were falling slowly, no marked change was noticeable in the disease rate, but when the rain-fall was heavy for a few successive hours, a rapid rise invariably followed on the fourth or fifth day afterwards.

This I account for by the fact that the drains of the native towns are surface ones, and that excess of water caused them to overflow and contaminate the wells. So overwhelming is the evidence in support of the theory that Cholera is propagated by means of the excreta or vomit of those suffering from the disease, that it would be a waste of words to reconsider the question here. In the same way it is superfluous to do more than take for granted that drinking-water is by far the most common medium for the transport and dissemination of infection. The first point which presents itself is the source of water-supply, and the second, the disposition of the night soil." These are important facts; and as applicable to America as Japan.

In Japan the sources of water supply are generally from wells, springs, and natural streams, as in China; where there is greater immunity from cholera epidemic than in other countries of the Orient, because it is customary and almost universal to boil water before drinking it; and where thirst is generally slaked by sipping a small cup of tea. The boat population of Canton, and perhaps of other Chinese ports, should be excepted from that statement, partly, as the boatmen and boat-women freely use, for drinking and cooking, as well as for laundry purposes, the filthy water from streams, into which sewers from populous cities enter; and have the appearance of health, elasticity and buoyancy, with great power of endurance, on diet of rice, fish, and vegetables. It is, however, usually boiled before drinking.

In Japan the disposal of the "night-soil" is somewhat different from that in China. In both countries it is carefully saved and utilized as fertilizing material in the cultivation of crops, and nothing that will enrich the land and increase its fertility is wasted; but the manner of treatment is different in China ~~than~~ <sup>from</sup> that in Japan, although the same result is obtained - viz: the fermentation or rotting of the excreta by deposit in tubs or covered heaps before applying it to the soil; which, measurably at least, and perhaps wholly, kills the germs of cholera, and prevents infection.

In Japan the excreta is deposited in oil-tubs or closed tanks buried in the ground until the time of applying it to the soil; and these deposits are often under, and always near the domicile; but in China the excreta is generally deposited in a large earthen dish within a square and tightly covered box, which is daily emptied and cleaned by the scavenger, who carries the excreta to the larger depository or heap for fermentation or rotting, preparatory to use in fertilizing the land.

The Chinese plan is obviously the better and safer one.

In China, so universal is the system of treating excreta, that "the indispensable box" is always an acceptable "bridal-present", and invariably forms part of the marriage outfit.

India presents a system, which, in contrast with that described as prevailing in Japan and China, in reference to the disposition and treatment of human excreta, is prolific of serious mischief and wide-spread evil and misery. It is estimated that 150,000,000, or three fifths of the population of India defecate on the ground. The Hindu cannot be made to use the latrine. In the cities, he digs a hole in his habitation; and in the country, he seeks the fields, the hill sides, the banks of streams or rivers, when obeying the calls of nature.

The Bishop of Calcutta has described the sufferings and misery of the vast crowds of natives who make pilgrimages extending hundreds of miles to and from "the great festivals", at which from 100,000 to 300,000 miserable pilgrims assemble, scattering the germs of disease and death along their route, and carrying to their homes "putrid holy food," or becoming food for dogs and vultures.

When those pilgrims who have not died on the road arrive at their journey's end, emaciated, with feet bound in rags and plastered with blood and dirt, they rush into the "sacred tanks" or the sea, and emerge to dress in clean garments. Disease and death make havoc with them during their stay. Corpses are buried in holes scooped in the sands, and hillocks are covered with bones and skulls washed from their shallow graves by the tropical rains, which prevail at that time, as the car festival of Juggernaut occurs in the midst of "the rainy season", in June or July. The temple

"Kitchen" has a monopoly of cooking, for the multitude, food, which must be presented before Juggernaut, and become "sacred," before it is eaten - thus exposing food for forty eight hours in the sun until it undergoes putrefactive fermentation, and is too loathsome for nutriment.

Fully one half of the pilgrims who reach the festival are suffering from bowel complaints. Badly as they are fed, they are <sup>worse</sup> ~~not~~ lodged.

W. W. Hunter, in his Arissa, says "the scenes of agony and suffocation in these hideous dens baffle description." Cholera, he says, "invariably breaks out. Living and dead are huddled together, under a leaking roof, above a reeking cess-pool, and with no more space to lie on than their bodies can cover."

The Bishop of Calcutta says, "there is no end to the recurrence of incidents of misery and humiliation, the horrors of which are unutterable; but which are eclipsed by those of the return journey."

Bishop Wilson estimated that 50,000 lives are lost in one of these Indian pilgrimages; of which there are several annually; so that Cholera has abundant opportunities for spreading over the whole of Hindustan every year by many huge armies of filthy pilgrims; and the country well deserves the reputation it has of being the birth-place and settled home of the malady."

Among the medical practitioners of India, China, and Japan, great diversity of opinion has been expressed in regard to the extent to which "germ laden dust" disseminates Cholera.

The "miasmatic doctrine" of Cholera prevails in India, with little importance being attached to the purity of water-supply for drinking purposes, which is stoutly and ally presented by the Contagionists.

as the most effective means of arresting the progress of the disease as an epidemic.

Dr. Simmons, whose observations and experience in Japan, should give great value to his opinion, says - "With reference to the 'dust infective' theory, we opine that in view of the facts there is sufficient reason to justify it. The air of Hindustan, especially during the dry season, may well be poisoned by the germs it takes up and wafts hither and thither with the breeze. In India, the poison which the excreta contain may effectually impregnate its victims by means of two vehicles of propagation, namely, water and air. In western regions its medium is water only, the 'night soil' being collected in vaults or pits, or washed into sewers and water-ways. Hence the divided opinion as to the source or cause of the disease among observers in the one case; their unity of belief in the other. While the habits and customs of the three eastern nations differ in the primary deposit of the night soil, yet ultimately the substance is in each case destined to the same fate - that of exposure on the surface of the soil. In this practice, then, it may be asked, not as much a cause of spread of the epidemic in China and Japan as in India, by dust as well as by contamination of the water after the filth has been so disposed of?"

A negative answer to this question may be properly returned, and upheld by a very tenable hypothesis, to establish which we must briefly consider at what period of their existence the Cholera germs are noxious.

The question whether they are capable of producing infection at the moment of passing from an individual suffering from the disease, or whether a certain process of fermentation is necessary,

has been often raised by investigators.

That a certain amount of fermentation at least favors their development and increase is undoubted; but it is equally certain that the natural history of the protozoetes teaches us that their exuberant growth may be brought to an end, even when at the height of their destructive activity, by the development of other and harmless parasites. Now, in India, the excreta are deposited directly from the body on to the soil, not in masses, but in separate spots; thence they are either quickly washed into water-supplies, or dried in the sun. In either case the germs are carried hither and thither rapidly and in great number, with their infectious principles latent, or, in a greater or less degree, or condition of development. In China and Japan the night-soil is first ~~is first~~ lodged in various kinds of receptacles. When favored by confinement in considerable masses, it produces fermentation in various degrees, some of which tend to the development of other besides the Cholerae parasitic growths. The longer and more complete the fermentation, the greater ~~there~~ the chance of the destruction of the infectious germs by parasites innocuous to the human system, which thus render the whole mass harmless as a means of propagating disease, even though particles may be taken up by the air or water and broadly disseminated. Considering that almost without exception the manure is stored for a considerable time (not less than from 8 to 10 days) before use by the farmer in China or Japan, and that in the receptacles the Cholera-infected stools must, in the vast majority of cases, be but a small portion of the whole, it is easy to see how the harmless products of the entire fermentation will quickly gain the mastery over the specific ones of the Cholera stools.



Thus we arrive at an apparent solution of the question why the night soil, spread on the fields of China and Japan as a fertilizer does not possess infectious qualities, even though originally mixed with matter containing cholera germs; and why in India, the infected stools are, through their early deposition on the soil, active agents in the propagation of the pestilence.

My repeated testings of the liquid manure in the vats of the peasants, while undergoing this preparation for use, during the hot season, have shown a slight acid reaction. Should this experience be borne out by further observation, we should find still another explanation of this supposed destruction of the cholera germs, as the power of acids to arrest their development, if not to destroy them altogether, is thoroughly recognized.

Hence it may be assumed that cholera evacuations are dangerous in proportion to their freshness, or the limited amount of fermentation to which they have been subjected.

This position may be strengthened by further evidence, negative, it is true; but not without much value. The manifestations of the disease has not been as extensive in the rural districts of Japan as in the large cities, towns and villages. Where cholera declared itself, it has been, in nearly every case, directly traceable to a contaminated water-supply. The devastation has been much less considerable in the plains than at the foot of mountains or in valleys where the water-supply has been derived from brooks which are led through streets, and so are liable to contamination by leakage from closets, or the practice of washing garments in them.

Taking into consideration the geographical positions of China and Japan, the one touching, through her tibetaries, the confines



of the very hearth of the disease, the other enjoying all the advantages which insularity confers, we thus find that Japan has relatively been more frequently and surely visited than China. This is to be explained solely by the fact that a very bad latrine system, one which permits overflow, leakage, and filtration, and consequent contamination of wells, obtains in Japan; a condition of things which does not prevail in China, a country whose hygienic condition in other respects is far in arrears of Japan".

One very important fact is recorded of the Cholera Epidemic of 1877-'79 in Japan - viz: "The foreign town of Yokohama suffered but little, only two fatal cases in the calamitous year of 1879. It is somewhat remarkable fact that the so-called "China-town" (part of Yokohama), where some 2,000 of Chinese are crowded in badly constructed dwellings, and abounding in filth, escaped the disease as in 1877, probably for the same reason, viz: that their drinking water <sup>was</sup> from a source of undoubted purity." reference to

That fact is the more surprising, when, upon the tabular returns of disease and mortality in the various towns, cities, and province of Japan, we find that in 1879 alone, 3166 deaths by Cholera occurred in the Province of Kanagawa, in which Yokohama and Tokio are located - more than one half of the deaths having occurred in Tokio, only twenty miles from Yokohama, with constant and intimate communication between the two cities. In Tokio the first manifestation of Cholera was in the neighborhood of the landing used by the crews of fishing-boats from Yokohama; and the disease was most severe in the vicinity of the fish-market. Cremation was almost universal in localities where the epidemic was most successfully conquered. The epidemic, which was

most destructive in 1879, broke out by the Government opening the graves of soldiers who died in 1877 of cholera in the southern part of the largest island of Japan, for certain religious purposes, and to bury more decently those who had been hastily interred. If cremation had been adopted there, as in some other localities, the calamity of 1879 would have been averted. Cremations cells or vaults are seen in Oriental countries in rear of Buddhist Temples; where the Buddhist priests are cremated, as well as their zealous followers.

China is one vast cemetery, after the interment of over a hundred generations of its inhabitants; but with characteristic utilitarianism, the Chinese select broken or rough lands for burial places, which are visible on the side-hills in all directions.

In some localities negligence in regard to burials is observable. Generally they are carefully attended to.

But the Chinese coffin, in common use, prevents offensive or dangerous odors from bodies of deceased human creatures, and is a marvelously effective contrivance to prevent drainage from burial fields on hill-sides from contaminating streams of water. Coffins containing deceased persons may rest for weeks and months above ground, until the selected times and places of interment may be agreed upon and known by the family or clan that has been bereaved; but no odor escapes from the coffin. The wood of which it is made is the hardest procurable; several inches thick; the several joints tightly ground together, or "dovetailed" joints cemented inside and outside with chunnam; and made completely air-tight and water-tight; while the corpse is often wrapped in cotton wool; and all the spaces between it and the wood filled with cement.

Thus while the Chinese seem to be ignorant of the science of medicine and surgery, and know little of anatomy and physiology, they have and maintain many of the essential laws of hygiene and sanitary vanity.

Notwithstanding the "local-origin" theory which is strictly maintained by the official sanitary staff in India respecting cholera, as found in Surgeon Major Lewis' reports, the introduction of "Asiatic cholera" into Chinese ports is usually traceable to arrivals of ships from infected ports of the south, as was the case when cholera became so destructive on the island of Hainan in 1881 and 1882, after the arrival in July 1881, of a ship from Bangkok, Siam, where cholera prevailed; and landing 270 Chinese passengers at the port of Hoikow, the chief port of the island, ~~at~~ which is in the Consular Districts of Canton.

Dr. Aldridge, of Hoikow, says- "I found that most of those who died had obtained their drinking water from wells situated either in their yards, or within a short distance of the street drains. I also heard that the disease proved fatal to many who had over-fatigued themselves by being up most of the night, sitting or standing, exposed to the night air in front of the Chinese theatres; and who had afterwards returned home, and after drinking large quantities of water and eating unripe fruit, such as pine-apple and water-melon, had then gone to sleep in the open air, only scantily clad. It is worthy of remark that out of 400 deaths in Hoikow (with a population of 12,000) only one death by cholera occurred among the numerous Cantonese residents, whose mode of living is more cleanly than that of the natives of Hainan island, and who are more careful about fruit and water."

These facts harmonize with the history of the Cholera-epidemic of 1817-27 in Japan as given by Dr. Simmons.

Undoubtedly cholera can be made or originated at any of the seaports of the Orient, by either of the two processes, of which abundant evidence is supplied.

One of these processes was in full operation at Canton during the months of April and May in the present year; when natives who had scant supplies of food and clothing, after exposure to the night air during the variable temperature of those months and the preceding month of March, gorged themselves with unripe fruit, and drank impure water, from streams into which sewers, flushed by the tropical rains of spring, poured the accumulated filth of several months of death. The victims of the disease were very few outside of the class above described. The epidemic was temporary; and is of annual recurrence among the same class of natives.

The other process is usually worked out by seamen who are periodically turned loose from war-ships in ports, when "men are given their liberty" for a few days, after prolonged confinement ~~on~~ on board ship.

The excesses in debauchery which invariably attend these "periods of liberty" in oriental seaports, where brothels and gambling dens, frequented by sailors "during liberty", are supplied with the vilest of compounds as liquors for beverage, and little or no regard paid to food, are too loathsome to be described; and these "seasons of liberty" to sailors are breeding or spawning seasons for disease. From one port to another these "Men-of-War", and other ships, go; and at one and all of the sea-ports the same round of brutishness

occurs under the plea of "giving men their liberty."

Is it any wonder, then, that ships arriving in port are credited with the introduction of Cholera from other ports, when the manufacturers or originators of the disease are the crews of ships thus fitted to carry pestilence around the world?

Fortunate, indeed, would it be for all concerned, if the only disease thus distributed were Cholera, which is subject to control; but other and more loathsome and ineradicable diseases, such as syphilis, leprosy, plague, and the numerous diseases so prevalent in oriental and tropical seaports, and Asiatic countries, are thus transferred to European and American Countries, whose navies, designed for national safety, become vehicles or media for the introduction of ills of incalculable injury. One European "Man-of-War," with less than one hundred men, went out of the port of Canton, after a sojourn of a few weeks in 1884, with sixty five cases of syphilitic diseases; from which scarcely ten per cent of the population of Canton, and some other <sup>Asiatic</sup> seaports, are absolutely free.

Dr. Alexander Jamieson, of Shanghai, who has evidently watched the movements of Cholera in the various countries of Asia; and made himself, and the Customs Medical Staff of China, acquainted with the fullest information, derivable from the ablest epidemiologists of the world; and from the various Sanitary Boards who have given the results of their observation in regard to Cholera and other epidemics; said in his report for 1878-79 - "The pathology of Cholera is far from being well worked out, but as a clinical fact it is undeniable that the course of symptoms in malignant Cholera and cholera morbus is precisely

the same".

+++ "On reading over the cases one cannot fail to be struck by the fact that many began by a debauch, and many were immediately preceded by long exposure, presumably in a state of drunkenness, to night air." +++ "The fact is most significant that the overwhelming majority of cases were furnished by sailors; a class of men reckless, prone to excesses, homeless on shore, unsuitably clad and fed, and specially likely to suffer from impure water and fiery or adulterated liquor." +++

In 1881 he said - "Whatever be the ultimate cause of the disease, its incidents upon individuals is largely due to neglect of ordinary and obvious hygienic precautions." In his report of 1881-2, Dr. Jamieson said - "Year by year the ~~same~~ <sup>same</sup> rule is observed, that it is only those who expose themselves without precaution to sudden changes of temperature, or to miasma arising from the ground within and around houses in the worst parts of the native quarters, or who have committed imprudence in eating and drinking, or are the subjects of chronic alcoholism, that present the group of often fatal symptoms, which it would be inconvenient to call cholera, were it not that most people associate with this term the idea of epidemicity, and therefore of inevitableness. The five fatal cases of cholera that occurred among foreigners during the six months from October 1<sup>st</sup> 1881 to April 30<sup>th</sup> 1882 were sailors." In his report of 1882-3 he said - "Every year has witnessed, ~~though~~ the recurrence of a disease which, though rightly qualified as cholera, bears no relation to any known epidemic waves." x x x

"The conditions which call it into activity seem to be local and personal. Local, because of their independence of contagion brought from

outside or epidemic waves; personal, inasmuch as almost every case can be in part explained by some avoidable error, dietetic or other. It is probable, though not proved, that once established, the malady is communicable by the intestinal excretions of the sufferers.

In his report of 1883, while devoting nearly twenty pages to information elicited by investigations into cholera in Egypt, and various parts of Asia, by scientific celebrities and experienced practitioners of Europe and Asia, Dr. Jamieson makes the following significant statements. +++ "In face of the failure of all methods of treatment, the only profitable direction which efforts to check cholera can take, is that of prevention." +++ Abandoning all theory, experience teaches that ~~whatever~~<sup>wherever</sup> those conditions are fulfilled which, since the dawn of civilization, have been, at least in words, acknowledged as the most favorable in a general way to health, there cholera takes no root or swift dies. Conversely, under those insanitary conditions, which, during years of freedom from epidemic disease, are allowed to accumulate and become more and more aggravated, cholera, at irregular intervals, breaks out, and spreads indefinitely. Whatever, either from the moral or from the physical side, depresses the general health is favorable to the ingress of cholera."

No data has been found of the extent or prevalence of cholera, or of the numbers of its victims, in countries between China and India; but it is known that it prevailed in Siam and the Malayan Peninsula in 1881; in the Philippine Islands and Cochinchina in 1882; and in Annam and Tongkin in 1882, '83, '84, '85, and seems to be "at home" in that afflicted region. It also appeared in Japan in 1882.

Cholera was more malignant in the Philippine Islands in 1882



than elsewhere at any time known.

According to Dr. Macgawani's statement, under the heading of "Notes on Epidemics of 1882," in the "Chinese Medical Report of 1882-83," "near Manila (Philippines), out of 1,099, who were attacked in one day, only 105 survived - the cases proving fatal generally in two hours."

That was, indeed, a serious affair, when only  $\frac{1}{10}$ th of those attacked survived. The Department of State probably has some record of that event; which, occurring at the time of a destructive earthquake, and several disastrous typhoons, caused a newly arrived Consul to tender his resignation, and vacate his post, without waiting to hear whether his retirement from official life had the approval or disapproval of his Government.

In thus gleaning and presenting, from authentic sources of information, important facts in regard to cholera and cholera-epidemics in Asia, which will occasionally force themselves upon the attention of Western Nations, I have refrained from mentioning the results of various modes of treatment of the disease; because those who should be most skillful and learned on this point do not evince very strong faith in any of the many suggestions or systems known to the medical profession; and also because medical science in Europe and America is supposed to be in advance of that in Asia.

Prevention seems to be the chief point; and that is obviously practicable.

With the hope, that, by the light of the experience of Eastern countries, in which cholera has prevailed too often, Americans and Europeans may adopt measures to prevent



that insatiable disease from taking an epidemic form in  
America and Europe;

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant

Charles Seymour  
Minister

*No. 86*



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*August 22<sup>nd</sup> 1885*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Alden,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Fras*

SYNOPSIS.

*Samples sent.*

No. 86

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

August 22<sup>nd</sup> 1885.

Mr. A. A. Allen

Chief Clerk, Dept. of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir,

I had the honor, on the 10<sup>th</sup> instant, in my dispatch No. 84, in compliance with instructions from the Department of State in dispatch No. 62, dated June 9<sup>th</sup> 1885, to make some statements in regard to teas and leaves used in adulterating or imitating teas, samples of which go by mail per St. "San Pablo" leaving Hong Kong today for San Francisco, by which said dispatch No. 84 (via Shanghai) should also go to you.

(Upon)

Upon further investigations  
 I find it impossible to obtain  
 any sample of the adulterated  
 tea mentioned in fourth page  
 of said dispatch No. 84, sample  
 of which adulterated tea I  
 promised to send labeled "B";  
 from the fact that such  
 adulteration as described, "B",  
 has apparently ceased, because  
 of the certainty of seizure and  
 condemnation of such adulterated  
 tea if offered in the British market.  
 An old and experienced American  
 Merchant was confident he could  
 obtain a "muster" or sample of  
 that mixture, but failed to get it.  
 I am assured that shippers of it find  
 it too hazardous to deal in. I sent samples  
 "A", "C", & "D", as described, & also sample "D"  
 9/10th Wampoa leaves & 1/10th green tea mixture.  
 I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant  
 Charles Seymour

*Send instruction to Minister  
Denby by cable to Shanghai  
to the U.S. Consulate*

*H. Clair*

No. 87



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*Copy to Mr. Denby  
Oct. 21*



FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Alden,*

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Persecution of Christians in  
China.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Memorandum of American,  
English and German  
Missionaries.*

No. 87

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

August 22<sup>nd</sup> 1895.

Mr. A. A. Abdee

Third Asst. Sec<sup>y</sup> of State  
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to hand  
you herewith two copies of a  
pamphlet entitled "Memorandum  
of the persecution of Christians in China",  
issued by a Committee of the Evangelical  
Alliance; from the pens of eminent  
American, English, and German Missionaries;  
for circulation in Europe and America;  
with the purpose of disseminating  
information that may lead to better  
provision being made by the "Western Powers"  
for protecting native Christians from persecution  
in China.

The subject is one of importance;  
and although such persecution is  
clearly forbidden by Treaty stipulation;  
there seems to be no permitted manner  
for enforcing the prohibition, or for  
obtaining indemnity for losses sustained  
by its violation.

I have tried to avoid troubling the  
Department with the details of the many  
cases of trouble in which Americans,  
from the United States of America, and China,  
and their nation. Courts and consuls,  
native preachers and keepers, have been  
involved, in this the most turbulent  
Concular District in China, or  
in the World; but have labored  
faithfully, and somewhat successfully,  
in getting these difficulties adjusted  
as fairly and quietly as possible.

3

It is gratifying to know that all such efforts have been duly appreciated and acknowledged by those who were more immediately concerned; and I am also glad to call your attention to the statements of the Mexican Minister, on pages 26, 27, and 28 of the accompanying <sup>pamphlet</sup>, showing how faithfully Baron von Schenkendorf, the able and courteous German Consul at Mexico, who kindly consented, without pay or remuneration, to act as United States Consul Agent at Mexico, during these trying and troublesome times, and protecting the interests of American Mexicans, and their native helpers and converts; and also to point out to you the fact that I was in honor bound to supply him



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with an Interpretation at a  
time when their services were  
indispensable; and that ~~the~~  
Congress failed to make any  
appropriation for Interpretation  
for the year from July 1884  
to Dec 31 1885, at ~~Washington~~  
Hoping that, by the light  
of these facts, justice may  
be done to Baron von Munching  
by thanking him for his services  
and that Congress may make  
an appropriation for the salary  
of his Interpretation for year ending Dec 31 1885.

I am, Sir,

Yours Obedient Servant,  
Charles Leonard  
W. M. M.

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## INTRODUCTION.

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THE Christian Church in China has been so seriously hurt by persecution during the last few months, that a collection of some of the facts in pamphlet form has been deemed advisable. It is not intended, however, to leave the impression, on the one hand, that the persecutions which the Chinese Church has recently suffered are here exhaustively detailed, or, on the other, that the Chinese authorities have in *every* case been unwilling to deal justly by the native Christians. Nay, as regards this latter point, we could, at the outset, gratefully acknowledge the not infrequent aid rendered by local officials in suppressing the outbreaks of petty animosity which have so often marked the history of the rising Churches in this country.


At the same time, facts recently recorded in the public prints are in such glaring violation, not only of international Treaties, but also of the universal laws of humanity, that the republication of some of these, in succinct and summarized form, may prove the best means of checking their recurrence.

The first extract is from an article on "The Political Status of Missionaries," in the March number of *The Chinese Recorder*, by the Rev. T. Richard. The facts alluded to are, Mr. Richard says, but "a few of the instances which have come to his knowledge," and adds, if the cases of persecution "which are known to every Legation in Peking, and those known to every Consul, and every Missionary, in China, were added, we can imagine what a long list we might have." The succeeding articles would form part of that list. They are taken from various publications, and the writers are Missionaries of various nationalities. But besides the testimony of Missionaries, we have added a quotation from a letter of the China Correspondent of one of the leading London journals,

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## -INTRODUCTION.

to show that the facts are so notorious that they have not escaped the notice of others not immediately concerned. And lest it should be thought that the persecution of Christians is wholly limited to the Canton province, or wholly due to the present troubles with France, a further extract is appended, giving particulars of a continued series of petty persecutions, which have been going on for years past in the North. Whether our readers will accept the conclusion drawn in the closing article, we are unable to say; but whether they do so or not, these conclusions are not hastily arrived at, not unsupported by fact, and not drawn from a narrow range of observation.



## THE POLITICAL STATUS OF MISSIONARIES AND NATIVE CHRISTIANS IN CHINA.

BY THE REV. T. RICHARD *of English Baptist Mission.*

*(Extract from an article in the Chinese Recorder, March, 1885.)*

AFTER referring at length to the action of the British Government in regard to Art. VIII in the Treaty between China and Great Britain, which reads as follows:—"The Christian religion, as professed by Protestants or Roman Catholics, inculcates the practice of virtue, and teaches man to do as he would be done by. Persons teaching it or professing it, therefore, shall alike be entitled to the protection of the Chinese authorities; nor shall any such, peaceably pursuing their calling, and not offending against the laws, be persecuted or interfered with." And alluding to the various interpretations which have since been put upon that Article, together with the famous "Memorandum of the Tsungli Yamen upon the Missionary Question," which was circulated 8th, February 1871, he proceeds:—

"Having dwelt on the Treaty, or British modifications of it, and Chinese modifications of it, let us now glance at it in action, to see, after 15 years trial of it, if it is as satisfactory as the two Governments anticipated.

"There is in China, as in every other country, a number of people who strive to do good. The so-called pro-foreign party in China belongs in the main to that number. Some of these mandarins and gentry have sacrificed all prospect of official preferment, and have braved the brunt of a very

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powerful public opinion, rather than be a party to blind prejudice. They are kind to missionaries, and just to Christians, and long to do good to their country by every means in their power. It is to these that we are indebted for the large amount of toleration which we have enjoyed in China, such as Protestants enjoy in Chihli, Kiangsu, Chekiang and Szech'uen provinces, and in the other provinces also, wherever there are friendly officials. For this we desire to record our very grateful thanks. It shows that freedom to reside in the interior is not fraught with as many evils as was once thought. Unfortunately, however, the party which has more prejudice than knowledge about foreign affairs has always been the stronger one, and of late this is fast getting everything in its own way. The views of this party in regard to Christianity may be gathered from the following facts:—

“1. We begin with the Missionary Circular of the Tsung-li Yamên. It assumed that missionaries were bad, and that the converts since 1860 were also bad. The eight rules were therefore drawn up in order to check their progress.

“2. Viceroy Li Hung Chang, several years ago, wrote a preface to Li Kwei's travels, in which he calls attention to the fact that there were able men in the West, who were not to be despised, and so forth. But that book makes much of the fact that the Chinese students in America were not allowed to go to any places of worship there.

“3. Viceroy Tsêng Kwo Ch'uen, now of Nanking, whilst gratefully receiving the bulk of the Famine Relief, through the hands of missionaries refused even to *see* the same missionaries when they went to see him in behalf of those who are now suffering for conscience' sake.

“4. Viceroy Chang Tsz Tung, now of Canton, on having a petition put before him to consider measures to prevent missionary troubles, never replied to it, but sent instead a Commission of three officials to ask the Missionary if he would not leave his missionary work and undertake the superintendence of mining and smelting in the province.

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"5. Successive Governors in the province of Shantung have persistently refused, for years, to punish the leaders of a mob attack on a missionary house in the provincial capital.

"6. The High Commissioner P'eng-ü-lin publishes his memorial to the Throne, for the suppression of Christianity: (1) by registration, (2) by having a mark outside the Christian's door, (3) by having a badge of disgrace on the Christian's clothes.

"7. The provincial authorities in Canton, we are told, issue instructions to those below them in eight characters: 'Provoke not the people, delay all cases.'

"8. The provincial Chancellor (Huotai) of Shansi instructs professors to inform their students that, if they join Christianity, they shall have their degrees taken away.

"9. A Taotai in Shansi, when a complaint was made of a degree being taken away from a man for being a Christian, wrote in reply that such talk grated on his ears.

"10. The prefect of Tehnghan-fu, in Hupeh, tried to get a missionary out of the city, but finding it difficult to do so by ordinary measures, took advantage of the examinations and issued the two following subjects to the candidates to write about:—

"(a) That which the people desire I desire.

"(b) Drive out all heresies.

"11. The Prefect of Tsingchow-fu, in Shantung, encouraged the people to oppose missionaries, by threatening to dismiss from his service those who would continue to visit the missionary.

"12. Magistrates in Kwangtung, Fokien, Hupeh, Shantung, and Shansi provinces, have taken a variety of means to oppose Christians. Some have issued proclamations against Christians, some have been present at mob attacks on Christian houses, have suggested burning of houses when the mob had only thrown stones, have issued warrants against Christians on false complaints, have not punished their opponents for real charges, and known to them to be so, but let them go quite

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free. They have exacted promises from the people to insult the first foreigners that come by. When attempts are made on the lives of missionaries, no punishment, so far as we know, was administered. It is almost the universal rule to beat and imprison any landlord, or middleman, who will dare to rent a house to the missionaries in the interior.

“13. A book of cases of persecutions published for the guidance of officials as precedents.

“These are a few of the instances which have come to the knowledge of the writer. If those known to every Legation in Peking, and those known to every Consul and every Missionary in China were added, we can imagine what a long list we might have. Result of this course:—

“The most marked, perhaps, is what followed on the publication of Commissioner P'eng's Memorial, when eighteen Protestant chapels were either destroyed or robbed within a few weeks afterwards. Missionaries in Kwangtung, Shantung, Shensi, Honan, Hupeh, and Kweichow, have been compelled to leave some of their stations. Some have been violently attacked, native Christians are attacked with clubs and swords, robbed of their property and their clothes. They are also driven out of their houses and villages, and subjected to endless annoyances and cruel privations. Their women we are told are subjected to worse indignities. An eye-witness told us that it was quite common to see soldiers in Canton firing their guns in the chapel doors in passing. He saw a soldier maliciously stepping up behind a missionary, drawing his sword, and making the motion of cutting his head off. The ordinary insulting names have now given way to another which is common in the street “Ta,” “Kill him!” It will be a mistake to think that this opposition all arises out of the proximity of Canton to Annam. Early this spring, the cry to exterminate was used by one of the Chinese Magistrates in Shantung, and reported to Peking. As for native Christians both in Shantung and Kwangtung, Magistrates have refused to consider their petitions. In Kwangtung there was a refusal, even after the Foreign Consul requested their case to be attended to.”



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That the cases so briefly alluded to in the above article may be made more intelligible to our readers, we reprint, in full, an article by the Rev. Dr. Graves, of Canton, an American Missionary, entitled "Persecution in Kwangtung," from *The Chinese Recorder*, Nov.-Dec. 1884, and further particulars from the pens of both English and German Missionaries.

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#### PERSECUTION IN KWANGTUNG.

BY REV. R. H. GRAVES, D.D.

*of American (South)  
Baptist Mission*

"The autumn of 1884 will be memorable in the history of Christianity in China, on account of the wave of anti-Christian and anti-foreign excitement which swept over the province of Kwangtung. In the course of a few weeks 18 Protestant chapels were destroyed or robbed. The degree of violence which they suffered varied from simple robbery of the clothes, &c., of the preacher to the total destruction of the furniture and building and the robbery and maltreatment of the native Christians in general. I make no allusion to the violence done to Roman Catholic chapels, as the priests in this province are French, and it is not strange that the people should vent their indignation against France for her unjustifiable demands and violence, by reprisals on French property, and abuse of those connected with the French.

"Speaking, then, only of Protestant chapels, the different nationalities and various Missions represented here all came in for a share in the losses. 10 chapels interfered with by the heathen were American, 7 were English, and 1 was German. 5 were connected with the American Presbyterian Mission; 1 with the English Presbyterian; 3 with the English Wesleyan; 2 with the London Mission; 1 with the English Church Mission; 4 with the American Baptists (2 at Canton at 2 at Swatow); 1 with the American Congregational Mission, and 1 with the German Berlin Mission. Several of these were

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near Swatow and the rest were in the vicinity of Canton. In Canton city the chapels were threatened, and saved only by the active efforts of the Consuls, who procured proclamations from the Chinese authorities. For two months the chapels were closed and there was no public preaching to the heathen. The Missionaries and other foreigners could not even venture on the streets, so great was the hatred toward all foreigners. At the instigation of the *Chinese Mail*, a rabid native newspaper in Hongkong, several of the Tartar soldiers were imprisoned simply for the crime of being Christians, and were released only through the efforts of the American Consul.

Our girls' schools, of which there are many in Canton, were almost all closed, through parents withdrawing their children and landlords refusing to rent their houses for Christian schools. In the country, several places rented as chapels were also resumed by the landlords who feared mob violence to their property. Colporteurs could find no sale for their books, and met with nothing but abuse. Thus all forms of Christian work among the heathen were suspended. Underlings from the Yamêns arrested the Christians and extorted money from them or threatened them with the direct punishments. Converts were beaten, and the clothes stripped off even of the women. (At Shinhing they were decent enough to bring a female along to take the dresses off the women.) Not only were chapels attacked, but the private dwellings and shops of the Christians were also mobbed, and their contents destroyed or stolen.

What were the Chinese Mandarins doing while these things were going on? Generally speaking, *nothing*. No arrests of rioters were made, no underlings were dismissed, no stolen property restored. In some cases, at the importunity of the Christians for help, impotent proclamations were posted up. At Shinhing, after one chapel had been destroyed, the District Magistrate sent a guard to protect one within the city walls, and put out a good proclamation, but his efforts were hindered by his superior, the Department Magistrate. At Poklo the District Magistrate has been an honorable exception, as he

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has, since the riot, arrested and punished some of the leading rioters, restored some of the stolen property, and offered some indemnity for the chapel destroyed. At Fats'han the authorities afforded Dr. Wenyon protection, but said they dared not arrest the rioters. They have since promised to rebuild one of the chapels demolished. On the other hand the Tsingluen Magistrate put out a proclamation stating that the American chapel belonged to the French and sat by in his chair while the rioting was going on, making no effort to check it as long as the houses of the heathen were not interfered with. The only help he afforded the Christians was to send some of them away in a boat after their houses had been destroyed, their property stolen, and they themselves, even old men and women, beaten and stripped of their clothes. It is stated on good authority that the secret instructions sent by the Provincial authorities to all the Districts were couched in eight characters, "Provoke not the people: Delay all cases." This policy has certainly been carried out to the letter, as no efforts were made to check the violence of the mob, and the Christians were snubbed whenever they made complaints. The cases of restitution alluded to above have been *since* the riots were over. The Chinese Authorities were generally powerless, or unwilling to do anything to check this mob violence. In most cases a little display of authority would have nipped the trouble in the bud, but *promptness* is not a virtue of Chinese mandarins and they prefer to feel their way along.

This craze of hostility was directed not only against Christianity but also against everything that was foreign, and at the same time beneficial. Native drug stores which sold foreign medicines, physicians who had received a training in western medicine, surgery, and dentistry were also objects of the hatred of the mob. Since the riots these practitioners, even though heathen, have lost almost all their patients. Those who pandered to the vices of the people by selling opium from Hongkong, and lottery tickets from Macao incurred however no danger from the rioters. Thus though this outbreak was anti-foreign, it was also an uprising against the true

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and the good. Satanic malice was at the bottom of the whole movement.

CAUSES.—If we seek for the causes of this outburst of popular violence they are not hard to discover. Nor does the blame attach exclusively to the Chinese, but fairness obliges us to say that we have suffered through the faults of men from beyond the ocean, as well as those of the people of the Central Kingdom.

It is undeniable that there is strong feeling of *race-hatred* among the Cantonese against Occidentals. This is not peculiar to them; thought it may exist in a more virulent form. We see the same in India and elsewhere. Asiatics differ from Europeans in their customs, habits, prejudices, and modes of thought as much as they do in dress. Both think themselves superior in the points on which they pride themselves. This self-conceit is a prominent trait in the Chinese character. As Canton has been the point of contact with Europeans for so many generations this race-conceit is synonymous with patriotism with the scholars and masses.

It must be admitted too that the conduct of foreigners has not always tended to remove this feeling from the minds even of the more thoughtful and better disposed. They see in the men of the West examples of the triumph of force, and the benefits of material civilization, but also they see instances of moral degradation. Commerce brings many evils in its train. A seaport frequented by the ships of all nations is too often a moral cesspool. Then, the moral sense of the better class of minds has been shocked by the opium trade, the coolie traffic and the legalized gambling and piracy of Hongkong and Macao. These two ports at either side of the Lintin bay have been the outposts of immorality in the eyes of the Chinese. The traffic in opium, with all its ramifications, smuggling, bribery, and the sapping of the strength of youth and stealing away the savings of the family has its center in Hongkong. Maccao is identified with piracy, coolie kidnapping, and legalized gambling. What was the introduction of the foreigner to Swatow? As a dealer in opium and coolie. Is it surprising

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then that the popular estimate of the foreigner is low in the eyes of the Cantonese? I do not mean that the influence of foreigners has been altogether injurious. It is not the fact. But human nature is such that it emphasizes the objectionable points in an enemy or a rival, and overlooks the favorable ones. Especially is this the case in times of popular excitement.

The *Hongkong Chinese Press* has a bad influence. It generally merely caters to the tastes and prejudices of its patrons. Reveling in a freedom which it could never enjoy in China itself, it has abused the protection of a Christian government to excite its readers against foreigners, and against Christianity. So great has been the abuse that the Government of Hongkong had to summon the editors of two principal sheets to trial before the court. But we never hear of a Chinese newspaper losing any subscribers because of its obscene contents, or on account of its inciting to assassination or murder. The general influence of these papers is anti-foreign, and anti-Christian. Not only have their false news and skilfully concocted telegrams mislead the people, but they have covertly encouraged the people, or even more openly incited them to destroy Christian chapels and persecute the native Christians.

The killing of an innocent Chinese boy by the Englishman Logan in a drunken spree, and the troubles culminating in the riot of 1883 so stirred up the hearts of the people that the feeling of exasperation against foreigners has not died away yet. This was another cause of the outburst of anti-foreign violence in September 1884.

The *pretensions of the Roman Catholics* have done much to prejudice the Chinese against Christianity. The priests assume the privileges of official rank, often claiming the right of visiting mandarins as peers, sometimes putting up lanterns at their doors with official titles, and resorting to various devices to give themselves an official *status*, and so to gain an influence among the people. This of course provokes the jealousy of the mandarins and gentry. Then they have claimed the privilege of sanctuary for their churches, and have claimed protection

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over native converts, rescuing them from the power of the civil law. While this right of asylum here, as when exercised in the middle ages, may often defend the persecuted Christian from oppression, it also now, as then, sometimes gives shelter to the guilty. Hence the Chinese officials complain that the Christian Churches become refuges for men who refuse to pay their taxes, and are even guilty of crime. It is commonly repoted that a man in Canton for whose arrest a reward of \$1000 was offered, joined the Roman Catholics and the priests said, "You cannot touch him, he is one of our people." The native priests are said to be quite overbearing in claiming access to the mandarins. Nor has this been entirely confined to the Roman Catholics, but native preachers connected with Protestant Missions are also charged with demanding admission into the presence of the local officials, and presuming on their connection with foreigners to claim civil privileges. There is often a good excuse for these things, as they are seeking to defend their fellow converts from the unjust oppression, and persecution of the heathen, and as the underlings throw every obstacle in the way of obtaining justice, they are tempted to claim as a privilege what they should seek as a favor. Still, all these things excite the ruling classes against Christianity. The scribes and Pharisees were not more jealous for the old order of things, than are the gentry and officials of China.

The *hostilities with France* certainly had much to do with the excitement. The unjustifiable conduct of this European Power provoked the people to the last degree, and especially reports that the French were about to attack Canton. That the Cantonese should be more irritated than the Chinese elsewhere is not strange. The proximity of the Two Kwang to Annam, the fact that many of the soldiers sent there were quartered in Canton, the exciting editorials of the Hongkong Chinese newspapers—all these things tended to kindle the hearts of the naturally turbulent populace here. It is noteworthy that though Foochow suffered so much, there was no outbreak against Christianity there, no chapels were attacked, and no native Christians suffered.

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But the main cause of this outbreak of fanaticism was the *conduct of the Chinese high officials*. This certainly was the immediate cause. We went into the city to our chapel as usual on August 29th, and found the people no worse than for days before. The next day a faithful Christian coolie came to us and begged us not to venture into the streets on Sunday the 31st, as the people were leaping for joy over proclamations from the high officials, the Imperial High Commissioner, P'ang Yu Lin, and the Viceroy, and Governor, and Ex-Viceroy. These papers offered rewards varying from \$5000 for the apprehension of the enemies of the Emperor. A final clause stated that this meant the French and their abettors among the Chinese and Annamese. But the proclamations were sold about the streets, and published in the Hongkong papers, I understand, with this clause omitted. The popular interpretation and that cried out by the news-sellers was "\$100 for a foreigner and \$50 for a native Christian." An appeal had thus been made by the authorities to the strongest passions that rule in the breast of the Chinese mob, love of money and hatred of the foreigner. The news spread like wildfire. In a few days chapels at Fatshan, Shinhing Tsing-yuen, Sanhi, Skeklung and elsewhere were demolished or robbed. The Roman Catholics were attacked and Protestants robbed. The authorities generally took no means to check the violence of the people, except sometimes to put out proclamations advising the people not to be riotous. There were one or two honorable exceptions. In Canton itself the Consuls protested earnestly and the Chinese Authorities put out a few feeble proclamations in a few obscure places, but not at the city gates where their proclamations are usually posted. On September 4th, a short proclamation protecting our dwellings chapels and schools was given to the Consuls. By September 14th, the Consuls had brought sufficient pressure to bear on the mandarins to lead them to issue a very good proclamation. These papers however were sent only to the Consuls for distribution to the Missionaries, to be posted at our chapels and schools and were not posted up at the city gates or elsewhere by the Chinese officials.

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There seems very little doubt as to the *animus* of the Chinese officials, especially of P'ang Yu Lin the High Commissioner. He was well known for his anti-Christian proclivities. At his first arrival last year the heathen party were rejoiced, and reports were at once circulated that Christianity was to be suppressed. He issued a rabid proclamation which excited the people very much in which he said that China would not hold herself responsible for any losses which might ensue from the destruction of buildings belonging to foreigners by popular violence. This of course was construed by the mob as a permission to destroy chapels &c. This proclamation was suspended at the *yamen* and sold about the streets, but excited the people so much that it was disavowed, and not posted at the city gates.

After the conclusion of the Li-Fournier treaty, Commissioner P'ang sent a memorial to Peking protesting against the peace-policy, and giving five reasons for war, and five recommendations to the Throne. In one of these he speaks of chapels as the "Heavenly Lord's devil halls" and does not hesitate to recommend their destruction and the massacre of the priests and native converts.

On July 16th, he sent the following memorial to the Empress, among other recommendations for the government of the Kwangtung province.

"A distinction must be made between Christians and the (loyal) people. Since the Treaties have permitted foreigners from the West to spread their doctrines the morals of the people have been greatly injured. A number of loafers and needy people have been enticed into the churches through their desire for trifling gains; these have thus become a refuge for those who have escaped (the clutches of the law). In consequence of these ruffians and rascals being in the churches the local authorities cannot exercise control over them. Thus quarrels arise, and chapels are burnt and destroyed, and numerous evils ensue.

"Since we cannot now prevent men from joining the churches, we beg a clear permission to accomplish our ends by secret means.



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(1.) That a register be made of all the Christians.

(2.) That all the Department and District Magistrates nail up on the front doors of the Christian's houses sign-boards on which "Christian" is written.

(3.) That all Christians be required to wear a different dress (from other people) that they be required to wear jackets only, and not be permitted to dress in long coats, in order that they may be exposed to ridicule and detestation, and so their proselyting may be checked, and their teachers may stop their preaching. Since they will exhort men to join their churches, those who join them should be distinguished from others. If men who have already joined them will not observe these regulations, this shows that they are ashamed of their religion, and if they are ashamed of their religion, the western teachers will not have anything to do with them.

"If the Christians have no distinctive badge they cannot be distinguished from the rest of the populace, and the officers will not be obliged to protect them. They should therefore all be registered that they may be held up to secret ridicule; have signs on their houses that they may be openly distinguished; and have distinctive clothes that they may be everywhere known. Those who would profess to be Christians before their teachers and deny it before the public would prove themselves the most odious of men, and would be a reproach to their Western teachers. Surely they would be proud of such Christians!

"By throwing these hindrances in their way they will have nothing to say. If this plan be adopted the Christians cannot scatter abroad their cheating, shameful doctrines; those who have not yet joined them will not readily make the trial, and the mandarins will be able to know how many have already joined the Christians.

"Your servant *Yu Lin* earnestly urges that this method be adopted in all the provinces, but it ought to be begun in the Two Kwang. I beg that orders may be given to the Viceroy and Governors to command the Department and District Magistrates everywhere to have a number of sign-

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boards prepared. By this plan this craze will die out. As to the teachers, they should not be permitted to interfere on behalf of any who have lawsuits or are imprisoned.

"The treaty of Tientsin is known in all the Departments and Districts, and the officials are therefore afraid of getting into trouble, therefore they are patiently waiting for a change, as they cannot themselves move in this matter.

These being sentiments of the Imperial commissioner, the other officials generally took their cue from him. The mandarins bowed to the popular gale, formed by themselves. Even in the proclamations put out under foreign pressure the *animus* was perceptible to all who could read between the lines. Thus after the private proclamation of September 12th, had been distributed to the chapels, the Provincial Judge issued a public proclamation in sentences of four characters intended to be read by the people and posted everywhere like a placard. While urging the people to desist from violence he says :—

"As to the foolish men who have joined the churches,  
They are also our subjects.  
If they return and repent  
They will be permitted to purge themselves.  
As to how their matters will be settled.  
The officers will hold the balances justly."

Thus the Christians are spoken of just as if they were rebels against the Government. It may be said that this applies only to the Catholics, as the French are alluded to in a preceding line, but the people make no such distinction, nor do the mandarins in their proclamations make any such distinction. 教民, *kiau min*, is intended to embrace all Christians both Protestants and Romanists. There is very little doubt but that this document was meant to counteract any favorable impression toward Christianity that might have been produced by that of September 12th.

So evident was it that the proclamation of August 30th, had caused the riots that one of the Consuls, at least, plainly told the Viceroy so, and the Chinese generally admit that the issuing of this paper was a grave mistake.

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*There can be no excuse for the Chinese acting as they did.* Whatever feeling they might have against foreigners for debauching the people with opium and lottery tickets, they know that the Protestant missionaries in their daily preaching condemn these things. They know that in the days of coolie kidnapping we circulated tracts warning the people against the snares of the kidnapper, and that publicly and privately we denounced the coolie traffic. They know that our hospitals and dispensaries have been opened for years, giving relief to the sick and suffering. They know that Protestant churches have never knowingly shielded any one from the power of the civil law, and that very rarely, and then only through some mistake, have we ever interfered in any law suit—only when we thought, at least, that the man was unjustly accused on account of his attachment to Christianity. Even then there has been no arrogant assumption of power, but only a request that justice might be done. The mandarins know well enough that Romanism and Protestantism are different, and propagated by men of different nationalities,—that while French, Spaniards and Italians spread Romanism, there are no American, English or German priests working among the Chinese. The simple fact is that the old, conservative spirit leads the Chinese to be jealous of any foreign influence, except that which increases the military strength, and the material wealth, and that which panders to the self-indulgence of the people.

So much for the causes of these lamentable occurrences. What can be done to prevent a recurrence of such things in the future?

REMEDIES:—As to the *popular animosity* to men from the West, we can try to remove it more and more by presenting the benevolent and moral side of our Western civilization. We must try to remove the dense cloud of darkness from the minds of the people; by our public preaching, by the distribution of the printed page, by our schools, and by our hospitals and dispensaries; and by our prayers we must seek God's power to renew their hearts.

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As to the *Hongkong native press*, some check should be put upon its license. It is not right that Chinese should abuse their freedom under the British flag to stir up anti-foreign and anti-Christian riots on the main land. While the influence of these papers may not stir up any overt attacks where English law holds the people in check, as in Hongkong, the effect is far different where this pressurè is removed. It is not right that these men, under the cover of British law in the colony, should send their missiles of riot and disorder among the inflammable masses of China.

The most potent cause of these troubles, and the one most difficult to remove, is the *opposition of the ruling classes*. This seems to be more marked in Canton than in some other parts of China. Here it is unmistakable. The mandarins know that, while the provisions of the treaties relating to diplomatic and commercial intercourse will be enforced, those relating to Christianity may be easily evaded. They know that no Protestant power will go to war with China or bring any great pressure to bear upon her for the sake of the Christian religion. Protestant Missionaries themselves would rather lose all their chapels and property than have their religion forced upon a people at the point of the sword. The Chinese officials, knowing these things, try by every secret means and all kinds of cunning duplicity to restrict the progress of Christianity. We have too many proofs of this to permit any doubt. By their treatment of the native Christians, and of those who would rent houses in the interior for residences of foreigners, and for chapels, they show what their feeling is. This has been manifest at Ngchow, at Liachow, in the neighborhood of Swatow, and in other places. If the native Christians go to their own authorities, the mandarins too often say: "You belong to the foreigners; go to the Consul if you want to; we will have nothing to do with your case." If they go to the Consuls they are frequently informed that foreign governments have not proposed to establish a protectorate over Chinese Christians. What is to be done? The Chinese Government, under the existing treaties, guarantees protection

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to native Christians. The mandarins ignore these treaty obligations. Who is to call them to account? Then, what does "protection" imply? Christians are beaten, their houses pulled down over their heads, their property is carried off openly, runners from the mandarin's *yamén* extort money from them, the mandarin puts out a proclamation advising the people to be quiet, and says he has afforded "protection." He sends some of the impoverished, houseless ones away in a boat, with the charge "never let me see you back here again." Is this protection? Are native Christians entitled to any compensation for their losses? At present all is uncertain. A striking instance has occurred here. The London Mission chapel at Fatsan was destroyed by a mob in 1871, and at the same time a house next door, belonging to one of the native Christians, was looted and injured. The Consul then claimed and obtained indemnity for the losses of the Chinaman. The same history has been repeated this year; and the Consul takes the view that the Chinaman has no claim that he can entertain. Which was right? Let us understand what protection means and how it is to be enforced.

(1.) I would suggest, then, that on the revision of the treaties something *definite* may be stated that there may be a uniformity of action. I mean *legal* action. Of course, sometimes *moral* means may be used and a case be done as a favor to a friendly Consul. What we want to know is, and what the Chinese Christians ought to know is, just where we stand.

(2.) The *status* of Chinese Christians should be clearly defined. They should not be treated and spoken of by the officials as though they are aliens or offenders, nor, on the other hand, should they be allowed to claim any exemption or privilege on account of their religion. (Of course, this does not refer to exemptions from idolatrous taxes, which are *not* governmental.) The two things go together. The native Christians are simply loyal Chinese subjects.

(3.) Let the attention of the Chinese Government be called to the fact of the distinction between Romanism and Protestantism. If the French priests take political and civil

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offenders under the protection of the church, let the representatives of the three great Protestant Powers who have Missionaries in China assure the Chinese Government that such is not the desire or practice of the Protestant churches. All that we desire is liberty to proclaim the teachings of the Bible, and that those who of their own free will accept these teachings be treated as loyal Chinese subjects with all the responsibilities and privileges of their fellow subjects—that a Christian be treated just as a Mohamedan or a worshiper of Buddhist or Tauist idols.

Finally, I would warmly second Mr. Richard's suggestion as to forming a *China Branch of the Evangelical Alliance*. Putting aside minor differences, let us unite to try to obtain *religious liberty*. By union with the European and American Branches we may be able to call the attention of the various nationalities to flagrant cases of persecution and to bring the moral pressure of the civilized world to bear upon a heathen Government which, if inclined to do right, is so often thwarted by the conduct of its officials.

Let us hope that, by the blessing of Him who from "evil still educes good," great good may yet come from these fiery trials.

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## VI. THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN CANTON CHINA.

BY THE REV. T. W. PEARCE *of London Mission*

The following account, from the pen of an English Missionary, will be found corroborative of the preceding in many points. It is taken from *The Chronicle of the London Missionary Society*, December 1884:—

Affairs at Canton appear to be slightly more settled just now (September 17th) than they were a fortnight ago. Proclamations issued by the highest native authorities have had the effect of keeping the people in check. Still, we have much cause to regret that this judicious and highly necessary policy of restraint was not sooner adopted. The past fortnight has witnessed many disturbances and risings on the part

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of the turbulent populace, who have given vent to their feelings of enmity against foreigners.

Our chapel at Fatshan, together with the English Wesleyan building in that town, was the first to suffer from mob violence. This occurred on the second day of the present month (September). Since that date eight other Protestant chapels have been wholly or partially destroyed.

One was situated at Shek Lung, a large town half-way on the road to Poklo. This Shek Lung Chapel belonged to the American Presbyterian Mission, which has also lost two others—one at San Ui, and the third at Chuk Liu. The Wesleyans have had two chapels wrecked, besides the one in Fatshan; whilst the Baptists have suffered to the same extent.

Persecution of the Christians continues in spite of stern official prohibitions addressed to the persecutors.

Many of our brethren have been compelled to leave Canton and Fatshan for the reason that heathen landlords dare not permit them to occupy houses in either town.

Some of the Christians, with reason, considered themselves exposed to personal danger. Their houses were constantly threatened, and themselves not unfrequently assailed in passing through the streets. Several have suffered in estate and one in person from injuries inflicted by rioters when looting his house. To be a Christian is to be the object of everybody's ridicule and infamy.

The heathen think, or profess to believe, that the real desire of their mandarins is to take advantage of the present quarrel with France to expel all foreigners; and especially the foreign teachers of Christianity, with their native converts and disciples. The consequence of this widespread feeling is that; the Christians are often in bodily fear; and it is no wonder that those who could do so have fled to find, if possible, a quiet refuge in Hongkong, Macao, or some far-off village, which excited party feeling has not reached, and where heathen malice is not likely to follow them.

Our Sunday congregations are small, and we cannot yet resume daily preaching. The conduct of the native assistants

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is praiseworthy. Young has kept at his post in Fatshan, and, by so doing, has much encouraged and comforted the brethren. The Fatshan Church still meets for worship in the missionary hospital belonging to the Wesleyans, which was not attacked by the rioters. Hung, at Kai Han, has been ordered by the local officials to remove with his family from the town; but this attempt to put a stop to our work there has been successfully resisted; and in Tsung Fa there are riots.

In Poklo the people, though riotously disposed, have not attacked the chapels; but Ng, the preacher in Poklo city, has removed by the advice of the magistrate to a dwelling-house at some distance from the chapel building. As regards the chapels in Canton, that on Sha Ki, opposite the foreign settlement, is safe, and special measures have been taken to protect the building in the Eighth Ward.

We all think that the worst ebullition of feeling has passed, and that the fury of the people, like the force of the recent typhoon, will soon be over, giving place to quieter times, and a better state of feeling.

It should be added that Dr. Chalmers is kindly taking steps to raise a small fund in Hongkong, to be applied to the relief of sufferers in extreme instances of loss and destitution.

Since my last letter was written, there have been fewer riotous demonstrations against the native Christians in and around Canton, though the state of things still leaves much to be desired. During the last six days reports have been sent in of acts of oppression, violence and robbery, done to individuals among the brethren at various places; but there is no instance of a chapel wrecked or looted. We may, perhaps, therefore, now hope that the acts of lawlessness which have continued so long will be stopped.

I am sorry to report that on the 19th of September one of our Poklo chapels, that at Tai Mi, was set upon by rioters. These left the walls for the most part standing unbroken, but the roof and all the wood-work of the building is entirely demolished, and the fittings and furniture have been either broken up or looted.



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Ng, the Poklo preacher, has been in correspondence with me on the subject, and from him it appears that Tsi, the Tai Mi evangelist, was at the village of Li Tsun when the riot at Tai Mi took place. The villages are a considerable distance apart, and Tsi had crossed to Li Tsun to console some of the brethren there whose houses had been entered and robbed. He had taken with him a copy of the proclamation issued a few days previously by the Viceroy and Government of the province, the object of which is to protect Christians. Tsi had already come half the distance on his way back to Tai Mi, when news of the riot and wrecking of the chapel was brought to him. Having learned what had taken place he returned to Poklo city by another way.

The day after it had transpired the occurrence was duly reported to the Poklo District Magistrate, and the next morning police and soldiers were despatched to Tai Mi. A mandate was also promptly issued, requiring the gentry to arrest rioters and protect converts.

We are grateful for this display of energy on the part of the Poklo Magistrate. His conduct contrasts favourably with that of the high mandarins in Canton, and the local officials in other disturbed country districts.

In addition to the wrecking of Tai Mi Chapel, several of the Christians sustained serious losses, being robbed of nearly all they possessed. I have counted thirteen families in six different villages of the Poklo district whose houses have been forcibly entered and ransacked.

The authorities concerned promise restitution, and assure us that the chapel will be speedily built up again. It remains to be seen what steps they will take to repair the injuries done. Ng Sinshang assures me that the district is now quiet, and that no further violence is to be feared. Elsewhere there are indications that the evil-disposed people are not satisfied with the mischief already occasioned, and will do even worse things if not kept under strict restraint.

The following incident will speak for itself. The gentry and responsible heads of a township called Yan Chan Po,

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which comprises twelve villages, all lying together outside the western suburbs of Canton city, have had occasion to issue a "notice" or "bill of regulation" concerning the internal administration of their township. One clause in the document relates to Christian converts living in the township, whom their neighbours are instructed to drive out. Our brethren are termed "seditious," "disorderly," "believers in Jesus." These terms to designate converts are evidently borrowed from the official proclamations, wherein persons who oppose the rule of the authorities are stigmatised as "seditious and disorderly."

In Fatshan, the brethren are watchful against their assailants, and, during the last fortnight, no attempts on their houses and property have been successful; but I will allow you to judge of the state of feeling in the town from what has just taken place at a great heathen festival, in which most of the townspeople, including the principal gentry, took part. This was the "All Souls' Festival," where masses are said and ceremonies gone through to free the souls of the unknown dead. The ten judgment halls of the nether world formed a part of the pageant, and among the figures in the eighth was one representing a convert to the Christian religion, with fetters on his hands and feet, and wearing a cangue, with the words written on it, "A Convert to the Christian religion, a rebel against heaven and all authority on earth." Our brethren have become "a reproach among the heathen."

It is very gratifying to be able to add that they remain faithful, and diligently attend the services where and when it is possible to meet. Yesterday was Sunday, and our congregation at Sha Ki was larger than usual.

Under the head of "Martyrdom in China," the following brief notice appears in the monthly publication of the English Presbyterian Mission, *The Gospel in China*, for November 1884. Though appearing in an English magazine, it is really from the pen of a German Missionary; but we quote the introductory remarks of the Editor:—

This account is given us by Dr. Lechler, the honoured and indefatigable head of the Mission of the Basel Society in

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South China. The work of Dr. Lechler and his coadjutors is chiefly among the Hak-kas. They have been successful in this work to a remarkable degree. Their stations and churches cover the country from Canton to Swatow, where they meet those of our own Mission.

Dr. Lechler tells us that "a man of some ability, one of their Christian people, had been preaching for some months in a village, until one day he was seized by the people, dragged away to a neighbouring temple, and commanded to burn incense. When he positively refused, they were enraged, and replied that he must burn incense or die. Without hesitation he answered, 'I will never offer incense to another idol as long as I live. Kill me if you will, but I can never deny the Lord Jesus who died for me.' They took him then straightway to a steep precipice, where they cut off his head, and threw his body into the stream below."

The next article is taken from *Woman's Work in China*, November, 1884, a magazine published in Shanghai.

It is given as a detailed illustration of the action of unfriendly Magistrates, in dealing both with Foreign Consuls and Native Christians.

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### CASE OF PERSECUTION NEAR SWATOW.

ABOUT thirty miles from Swatow is a town called Chiu-huan-nia. Some three years ago a young man from this place heard the Gospel at a chapel three miles distant. He became a believer. He made the doctrine known to his friends, some of whom also accepted it. In course of time the number included the inmates of seven families, numbering about thirty persons in all. They met regularly for worship, sometimes going to the distant chapel and sometimes holding meetings in one their own houses.

This stirred up the wrath of some of the villagers. Chief among them was a certain man who acted as master of ceremonies at idol processions, and who handled the funds contributed on such occasions. It was the story of Demetrius

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and the craftsmen, in Chinese surroundings. "This thing of becoming Christians must be stopped," said the man, "for," said he, "our village is small. We have all we can do now to raise money for the processions, and here thirty persons refuse to contribute longer. If we allow this thing to go on, others will believe. Our contributions will fall off, and by-and-by we shall have no processions at all. So this must be stopped."

The saying suited the villagers. It was resolved that "the thing should be stopped" thoroughly. Measures were at once taken. A series of grinding persecutions at once commenced. The people pledged themselves to have no dealings with the Christians. They would not buy and sell with them. They would not speak to them in the street. They would not let them have water from the public wells. They insulted them, frequently pelted them with stones, and ostracised them on all occasions. The disciples put up with this quietly, accepting it as a part of their heritage as Christians, and did not swerve from their faith.

The villagers proceeded to stronger measures. They invaded the fields of the believers, pulled up part of the growing crop and carried it off, trampling the rest under foot to render it worthless. The loss was heavy. They also forbade the manager of the joint-stock sugar mill from grinding any cane for the believers. The cane having been cut before this interdict was known, another grievous loss was sustained. It became evident that the disciples could no longer delay seeking protection. The Magistrate was unfriendly, but he was the only resource. They sent in their complaint, stating circumstances of the case. The magistrate cross-examined them roughly. "Was it indeed so, that they did not worship their ancestors," he asked them, "and that they did not contribute to idol processions?" They replied, they were taught to honor their parents while living, but they did not worship their tombs after they were dead. Further, they did not contribute to idol worship for it was wrong. The Magistrate snarled an answer, saying he would send and inquire. It was evident that he intended them no good. Several constables were sent

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to the place, knowing well what kind of a report was desired by their master. They came back and reported that the story of the Christians was all a lie. There had been some trouble, but it was on account of their own misconduct. "Exactly so," said the Magistrate, and he threw the complaint aside.

Thus encouraged, the villagers now entered the patches of woodland owned by the disciples, and cut down all the trees some of which they sold for fire-wood and the rest of which they boldly stored in their own village.

One fresh attempt the Christians made for redress. Again they sent in a petition to the Magistrate, humbly imploring him to protect them from this continued robbery. According to usage, the Magistrate must take some notice of such petitions. Again was re-enacted the farce of sending constables. The latter were soon hobnobbing with the villagers, partaking of a feast to which they were invited, and pocketing the small sums they received. They made a report like the former. The stories were pure inventions by the Christians. No trees had been cut down and there was no occasion for any further inquiry. The Christians renewed their petition, all signing it with the mark of their thumbs, dipped in ink, by which they are sure to be recognized. They re-affirmed their story. They begged the Magistrate to send a special Deputy, not in league with the villagers, and if he found that they were telling a lie, they offered themselves to undergo any scourging the Magistrate might choose to inflict. The Magistrate told them tartly he would send no such Deputy. He would not believe their story and drove them away.

There was no chance for the Christians. The spring of the present year dragged away. The houses had been plundered, and the men themselves became afraid to enter the village. Their situation was deplorable. They were suffering for food, and several times received relief from their brethren in other places. It was not simply poverty, but starvation that stared them in the face. Still there remained to them some ~~the~~ fields some little distance away. A crop of rice was slowly coming on. The villagers allowed this to remain, intending

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to cut and appropriate it themselves. As the ripening drew near the anxiety of the disciples was great. If they could only save their rice their families could get along until better days would come. Some three or four brethren from other villages volunteered to come and help them cut it in time to save it.

One disciple who ventured back to look after affairs was seized and severely beaten. He went to the Yamên to ask the Magistrate to examine his wounds and to grant redress. This is a usage at all Yamêns and one which a Magistrate cannot well evade. But the villagers were ready with an expedient. It was arranged that one of their number should receive a slight cut on the forehead. Smearing over his face the little blood that came out, to make the most of it, he too hurried off to the Yamên and reported that he and others had been assailed by this man. This was enough. His tale was at once accepted. The Christian was told that if he would first pay thirty dollars the Magistrate would examine his bruises; otherwise he would not. The Christian had no money to pay and so had to go his way.

Up to this time, we here had taken no part in the matter beyond advising the disciples to be patient, rendering them some assistance from time to time as their needy circumstances required. Though the Treaty has an Article against persecution, we do not think it expedient to avail ourselves of it except in extreme cases. Such an extremity seemed now to have come. We addressed a note to the courteous Baron von Seckendorff, German Consul, now acting as United States Consular Agent. He addressed a note to the Magistrate, calling his attention to gross violation of the Treaty by the villagers. To this was returned an insolent answer, declaring that the statements of the Christians were false and unfounded. At our request the Baron sent in a Chinese *attaché* of his own office to make observations and report to himself. The man went in. At that time the grain was ready to be cut. The owners of it, with the help already mentioned, hastened to gather it. The villagers, led on by the procession manager, turned out and seized them all, including the Consul's messenger, with his

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guide and one of our preachers who were simply witnesses of what was going on. The Consul's messenger made himself known, but he was treated with derision. The Mandarin said the villagers was on their side and they did not care for Consuls. The men's hands were tied behind their backs by the thumbs and then drawn upwards by ropes over the limbs of trees, and while in this position of torture, with their toes barely touching the ground, they were pounded and bruised without mercy. This completed, they were imprisoned in an empty house. The Consul's man managed privately to bribe a messenger to bring word to the Consul of the sad condition he was in. The Consul lost not a moment in sending two indignant protests to the officials, and likewise demanded the instant release of his messenger. This letter arrived at the Yamên in the night. The underlings of the Magistrate, who were in full sympathy with the villagers, at once hurried off a private messenger to notify them of impending trouble which they must guard against. The villagers saw that they must release at least some of their victims. But before they did so, and before the victims knew of the help that was coming, they trumped up three confederates of their own who were to come in as outsiders to settle the difficulty. These three fellows went to the prisoners, saying "We will help you out of this, but you must sign a paper that you will make no trouble about it after you are out. If you do not sign the paper we shall go away and the villagers will kill you." The frightened guide and preachers signed the paper. The Consul's man who felt sure of his master's intervention, refused, asserting that he did not know how to write. The villagers had no time to lose. They completed the transaction in haste as best they could and set the Consul's messenger, the guide, and the preacher at liberty to pursue their way back to Swatow. After they were gone, but not till then, came the constables sent by the Magistrate to inquire if these things were so. The villagers denied everything, and said the men had gone away of themselves. Answer to that effect was returned to the Magistrate who knew perfectly well that it was a lie.

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But now the thing was to get up an answer to the Consul. Some of the men had been released. Perhaps that would pacify him. But then he might insist upon an explanation. Various devices were discussed. A favorite Chinese trick in such cases is to get up a countercharge. It was arranged that some woman of the village should come forward and testify that these men had committed a violent assault upon her person, and that for this they were beaten by the indignant villagers. A score of persons offered themselves as witnesses, and details of the story they were to tell decided upon.

Meanwhile, it was evident the Consul was terribly in earnest, again writing not only to the magistrate but to his superior. So something had to be done. The false evidence of various kinds was duly sent in, and from it the Magistrate framed another insolent reply. In it he alleged that the Consul's messenger had been guilty of various kinds of gross misconduct at the village and had suffered in consequence, abundant proof of which, he said, he had at his Yamên.

But while sending this, the Magistrate was afraid that the Consul himself might come in and demand an investigation and a trial. So he decided to forestall things a little by hurrying up the trial on his own account. The injured disciples and their persecutors were summoned to the Yamên. The constables were advised to re-cook their report to adapt it a little to facts which had become notorious. They now reported that a very few trees had been cut down, but they were of no great value, and that one pig had been carried away, and some trivial annoyances inflicted, but beyond this nothing. All this was done with the knowledge of the Magistrate. The day for trial came. The Christians were asked to state their grievances. They made a full and clear statement of all they had suffered and of the losses they had sustained. The Magistrate ridiculed them. However, he would adjudge them something, and offered them ten dollars. They begged him to consider what an inadequate compensation that was when their losses had been *two thousand* dollars. "Well then I will make it fifteen," said the Magistrate. Again the



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disciples begged for justice. He became angry and said, "I understand you once settled this case by three negotiators, and signed a paper to drop the matter. Now if you do not accept an award of fifteen dollars in full, I will send for these negotiators and on their testimony I will punish you." The disciples pleaded that they had no voice in selecting these negotiators, and therefore, according to custom, they had no right to act. "No matter," said the Magistrate, "I will send for them and act on what they say." The brethren were required to give bail for their appearance while their persecutors were sent away in triumph, and there the case stands at the present time. The disciples are now considering whether they might not as well, first as last, leave their village, give up their homes to their implacable enemies, and start out in the world anew.

This story is somewhat long, but it shows what Chinese justice is, and what of late our converts have had to go through continually, in seeking redress for grievances at their own Yamêns.

The following extract from a letter of the Rev. H. L. Mackenzie, and Mr. Macgregor's letter to H. B. M. Consul, Amoy, are both taken from *The Gospel in China*, November, 1884. The former shows that, in this case, the gentry of the place were the leading movers, and it is well known how firm a hand is required on the part of the Magistrate of the place, when the gentry unanimously decide upon a riot. But the latter clearly indicates the animus of the Magistrate, and may be taken as an example of the untruthfulness of many of the despatches of such Magistrates, and the difficulties of negotiation in which Foreign Consuls are so frequently involved.

#### PERSECUTION AT SWATOW.

LETTER FROM REV. H. L. MACKENZIE

*of English Presby.  
Mission.*

SWATOW, 20th August, 1884.—I deeply regret to have to inform you that very severe persecution has broken out at Hong-pheng. The Gospel has been preached in that town for nearly ten years, and now a little flock of fifty converts has

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been gathered in. Ten or eleven of these are Kong-pheng people; the others are from villages in the neighbourhood. Owing to its distance, we have paid fewer visits to Kong-pheng than to our other stations; it is between five and six days' journey from Swatow. It has been graciously ordered hitherto that no persecution worth speaking of has distressed the Christians there, though once and again their heathen neighbours have threatened to assault and plunder them. I have sometimes wondered that such a long time of peace was granted to the congregation there, and that they and we enjoyed such freedom from the worry and care of "cases." But at length, and this too is in the *good* providence of God, the storm has burst, and the little flock is feeling, and we with them, the rage and violence of the enemy.

On the 30th ult., at an early hour, the mob, encouraged by the leading people of the town, attacked the chapel, beat the preacher in charge, and plundered him and his wife and children of all their goods, save the clothes they wore. They then broke down the chapel, carrying away the furniture and woodwork—everything in fact, that was worth taking. Had their rage ceased then it would not have been so bad. But evidently the mob was incited not only to attack the chapel and preacher, the centre of the good work in Kong-pheng: they were determined to vent their rage on those of their own people who had joined the hated "foreign religion." They pillaged and destroyed in succession no fewer than eight houses of the converts. Some of these houses were, we are informed, not only emptied of all that could be carried off, but also completely broken down. The very walls were "razed," and the doors and window-frames taken. It will give you some idea of the determination of the mob when I tell you that four of the houses attacked are in villages in the neighbourhood of Kong-pheng, one of these being about a third of a mile distant, one over a mile, and one about two miles.

The rioters intended to attack another village in which there is a considerable number of Christians; but on hearing that the heathens and Christians combined and were prepared

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to show fight, they desisted. It seems that in former years Chhenow, the village in question, and Kong-pheng have had feuds; hence the unusual combination of the villagers, Christian and non-Christian. The immediate pretext for this outbreak of mob violence was the repair and extension of our chapel premises. For years we have felt the need of more suitable accommodation; indeed, the place we put up in on our visits to the station was positively unhealthy, and both we and the native preachers have in some measure suffered from living in it. We resolved to improve the house, and make some needful addition to it this year; the commencement of this work was the signal for those who had long been waiting to find occasion against us. The "gentry" of the town applied to the District Magistrate, asking him to stop the building. They complained that the height to which it was to be raised would injure the prosperity of the town, etc. Now the fact is that the walls of the new part were to be only fourteen feet high, a height exceeded in several houses in Kong-pheng.

The Magistrate refused to interfere, declined to listen to their complaint. The "gentry" then took the law into their own hands, and taking advantage of the excitement produced by an idolatrous procession, intended to prevent cholera, they easily incited the townspeople to begin and carry out the work of pillage and destruction of which I now write.

Our hearts are sore for the poor people who have suffered this grievous wrong. It is a severe trial to their faith, and a time of sifting to the whole congregation. Meanwhile we have sent some of our more experienced assistants to inquire fully into the whole matter, to help those who have suffered in making their appeal to the Magistrate, and to encourage and comfort the congregation as they find opportunity. It was resolved that two of our number should go to Hai-Fung district city to see the Magistrate, and then, if the way was at all open, to Kong-pheng or neighbourhood to meet with the Christians. But, on communicating with the English Consul, he declined to hold himself responsible for our safety in the

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present state of angry excitement between France and China, and advised that none of us should go. Accordingly we have put off going for the present, and are doing what we can in this painful case by means of our native brethren, seconded by letters from the Consul to the Taotai and to the Hai-Fung Magistrate. We have just heard that the Magistrate went to Kong-pheng to inquire into the matter, and also that, thus far, he has expressed himself with an unmistakable *animus* against the chapel and those who frequented it. It is the old story, the heathen and their rulers proud and bitter against the Lord and against His people, and cruel and unscrupulous in their enmity. We must just hold on to the forty-sixth Psalm, to Him who always cares for His people, and who will assuredly prevail. I would earnestly beg the prayers of the whole Church on behalf of the persecuted; deny us not this boon.

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### AMOY: THE TROUBLES AT CHANGPU.

LETTER FROM REV. W. MCGREGOR TO H.B.M. CONSUL AT AMOY.

Amoy, July 3rd, 1884.

SIR—I have carefully read the despatch of the Chang-chiu Tautai and the report of the Magistrate of the Changpu district included in it. In that report there are many statements far from correct, and the conclusion is based upon an erroneous assumption as to what is required to be done when a house is rented as a place of Christian worship.

1. When the chapel at Changpu was occupied by Mr. Watson, the Magistrate claims to have prevented a disturbance by sending police. The arrival of the police did not prevent a disturbance. It would be more correct to say it produced one. When some loafers, seemingly sent for the purpose, began to throw stones and threaten to destroy the chapel, Mr. Watson had to ask protection. After some time the police came, but (apparently) forgetting that the missionary could understand what they said, instead of trying to disperse the people, kept inciting them to further violence.

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It was while they were thus present that the door was smashed, the chapel rifled, and Mr. Watson driven to take refuge in the Yamên.

2. In speaking of Mr. Watson having secured a house on mortgage, he says:—"What he did was to call on Tsai-chi in the first place to invite his creditors to meet him; then, in Tsai-chi's presence and on his behalf, he paid the debt; then, as soon as the acknowledgment of the debt was in his hands, but not before, declared his intention of establishing a chapel." This statement is wholly untrue. Tsai-chi was from the first told that the house was to be a Christian chapel. Why should he not be told? By the law of the empire as embodied in treaties with foreign Governments the establishment of chapels is a laudable proceeding in which no concealment is needed. Tsai-chi and the middle-men all knew the terms of the deed, in which it is clearly stated that the house is to be a chapel. On the afternoon of 19th May, they all met in Mr. Watson's presence to sign the deed, and before this was done it was read in their hearing, and all expressed their satisfaction. It was at a late hour of the same day that Tsai-chi came again to the chapel to receive his money. If he then brought with him any of his creditors, that he might at once pay them, that was his own affair, with which the missionaries have nothing to do. The truth is that the Magistrate was so determined to bring trouble on every one connected even in the remotest way with the chapel case that he hunted up the creditors of Tsai-chi, and by threats extorted from them the money they had received, and this is the money he now professes to have had lodged in his hands by Tsai-chi for the redemption of the mortgage.

In another paragraph the Magistrate says:—"Now, according to Tsai-chi's own clear deposition, Lai Hsin-Hsü, when negotiating the mortgage, spoke only of residence, and made no mention of the establishment of a chapel." Now, by the Magistrate's orders, Tsai-chi was beaten 400 strokes with the bamboo, the middle-man, Chin-Lo, was beaten 200 strokes, and the writer of the deed also 200 strokes. It was made very

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clear that all concerned in leasing or mortgaging a house as a chapel were to be treated as malefactors. Is it strange that in such circumstances Tsai-chi should give evidence tending to excuse himself? If his evidence was given after he was beaten it is easy to see how it should take the form it does. If it was given before he was beaten, and the Magistrate believed him to be "completely fooled" in the transaction, why was he beaten at all?

The utter worthlessness of the depositions enclosed in the Magistrate's report is, perhaps, most apparent in the evidence said to have been given by the middle-man, Chin-Lo. He is reported to have said:—"On the 19th May, Lai Hsin-Hsü said, 'the deed was written,' and called upon me to act as middle-man. Hearing that it was proposed to establish a chapel, I declined to sign the deed." This deposition is forwarded by the Magistrate as giving part of the facts of the case. Yet Chin-Lo did, in Mr. Watson's presence, sign the deed. Also the Magistrate knows quite well that he did so, seeing that he has the deed in his possession, having obtained it from Mr. Watson on pretence of seeing if it was all correct, and then, on various pretexts, excused himself from returning it. If Chin-Lo did not sign the deed, what was he summoned before the Magistrate for? For what was he beaten? What connection had he with the case at all?

3. The magistrate complains that the deed was not brought to him to be stamped, and that the consent of the owner of the ground was not obtained. He seems to forget that the transaction was not a sale, but a mortgage. In a case of mortgage or lease, we understand it is not the general usage that the deed should be stamped. The interests of the owner of the ground were not affected by the transaction, as the house was secured under the conditions on which it was held by the owner. In point of fact, however, the owner of the ground was quite aware of the transaction, and at the time the disturbance arose, he was actually negotiating with Mr. Watson about receiving in one lump sum the annual payments of 406 cash, which would have to be given him for six years.

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4. Omitting other matters of detail, I wish to draw your attention specially to the principle on which the Magistrate claims to have the case settled. His demand is that the providing of a place of Christian worship be gone about with formalities which can always enable the officials to prevent one from being got. He says:—"In time past it has always been the rule that any intention of establishing a chapel should be first communicated to the local authorities, that they might afford protection. In the present case such prior intimation has been omitted." In time past this has not been the rule. No such rule was laid down in any treaty with any foreign country. The first mention of such a claim is found in the "Memorandum of the Tsung-li Yamên upon the Missionary Question," circulated February 8th, 1871. In Enclosure 2nd of that document, Art. 8, the claim is put thus: "When Christians wish to buy land for the erection of religious establishments, or to rent public places, they should first, in conjunction with the owners of the property, lay the matter before the local authority, that he may ascertain whether the Feng-shui will be interfered with. If he allow the sale after inquiry, and if, moreover, the people of the place be not hostile to it, authority can be given to proceed."

The claims contained in the Memorandum were rejected by the foreign Governments as quite inadmissible. Yet, because the Viceroy and other high officials of the province of Fuh-kien have on their own responsibility issued a proclamation embodying this claim, the Changpu Magistrate demands that it be admitted in the settlement of this case, and has the hardihood to assert that the method of procedure laid down in it has always been acted on.

The method of procedure laid down in this claim is one that in its very nature implies, that to establish a chapel is so disreputable a proceeding, that all concerned ought to be assumed to be evil-doers and carefully watched. The Magistrate has acted on this assumption in seizing and beating the owner of the house, the middle-man, and the writer of the deed. His whole report looks at the case from this standpoint.

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Why is Lai Hsin-Hsü abused by him as a schemer and a plotter? Simply because he assisted in looking out a house for a chapel. No other charge is brought against him. The Magistrate says of him:—"This project" (*i.e.*, the providing of a house as a chapel) "is an old one of his which he has often attempted to carry out without success. This time he keeps his name concealed and works in secret. The scheme beyond question gives plentiful evidence of mature deliberation, of having been pondered on while away [from Changpu], and of having been kept steadily in view."

Is the Magistrate so ignorant as not to know that to provide a house for Christian worship is in China a perfectly legal proceeding, on account of which a man is no more to be regarded with suspicion than on account of providing himself with a shop in which to carry on business?

5. Towards the close of his report the Magistrate says:—"Altogether the project is hurtful and unprecedented. If it be nevertheless persisted in and carried out with a high hand, lamentable disturbances will surely result."

No doubt there will be disturbances if the Magistrate encourage them, not otherwise. No one has been punished, or even questioned, on account of the riot when the chapel was attacked; but those who had anything to do with mortgaging it have, as stated above, been beaten and the owner of the house is still in custody. The Magistrate has done all he can to show that a chapel may be rifled with impunity, but that anyone who ventures to lease a house or site for a Christian church will be punished. Yet he has the effrontery to state that he has again and again urged the preacher Wu to take back the money, and "either to rent another house, or buy a piece of ground and build on it. In such case, if both parties are satisfied, and there are no other complications or objections, on informing the authorities a chapel might be established."

A house has already been mortgaged. Both parties are satisfied. There are no complications, except those of the Magistrate's creation. Let him stamp the deed if he judges that necessary; let him liberate the owner of the house, and



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restore the money exacted from him and his creditors ; let him issue a proclamation that this mortgage is perfectly legal, and that any owner of houses or land may lease or mortgage them for Christian uses without fear or trouble. In this way the affair will be amicably arranged, and every one will be satisfied. If the Magistrate has special objections to our occupying this house, let him find for us another suitable house or site. We shall be prepared favourably to consider any such offer, on condition that the legality of all our proceedings be made known by proclamation, that the owner of the house suffer no loss, and that we continue to occupy the premises we have mortgaged until those provided by the Magistrate be secured by proper deeds, and, if necessary, suitable buildings be erected by us.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

WM. MCGREGOR

(*For English Presbyterian Mission*).

To H.B.M. Consul.

The record of facts such as those given above cannot be confined to Missionary publications. The Home papers again and again have contained accounts forwarded by their China correspondents. Take the following from the Canton correspondent of *The Daily News*, under date October 13th, 1884.

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### PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS IN CHINA.

The Canton correspondent of the *Daily News*, writing on the 13th of October, says :—

The English and American Protestant Missions have sustained serious losses, and their converts have been bitterly persecuted. No lives have been sacrificed ; but homes have been broken up, men have been brutally beaten, and women, stripped of their clothing, and with the sword above their heads, have been compelled to renounce their faith. We have been accustomed to think dubiously of the conversion of

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Chinese to the Christian faith; but however ignorant the native Christians may be of the higher duties and responsibilities of their religion, the firmness which they have displayed in the midst of these trying persecutions can only be regarded as strong evidence of their sincerity." The fact that in Canton itself the storm of anti-foreign excitement has done so little actual damage is due, the correspondent says, to the vigilance of the foreign Consuls, the constant presence of foreign gunboats, and to the shrewdness of the Chinese Viceroy, who, though prompted by his own inclinations and by instructions from Peking to look with favour upon any circumstance which threatened to make other nations suffer in consequence of the military movements of the French, yet has been too wary to resist or to neglect the suggestions of the various Consuls with regard to the protection of the persons and property of foreigners. It is a common custom for the Court at Peking to issue double sets of instructions for the Provincial Governors; one set, appearing in the *Gazette*, is intended for the eye of foreign Ministers, and so is couched in general language which suggests no infringement of treaty rights; but it is the other set, often widely different in tenor, and so not submitted to public inspection, which represents the real policy of the Chinese Government.

As it is frequently asserted that the recent Missionary troubles are due to the French war, and the hope frequently expressed, that when this war is terminated, we shall see an end of this virulence of hostility, we have added extracts from an article by the Rev. T. Richard, which take us back two years, and refer to troubles far from the seat of war, in the year 1883, as well as some of more recent date.

In recounting them, Mr. Richard dwells upon persecutions from the common people, from the gentry, and from the officials, but the most formidable of these three classes is that which comes from the officials. Mr. Richard says:—

We begin with persecutions from the common people, such as labourers, farmers, and tradesmen. One man is charged with being unfaithful because he is a Christian and is obliged to

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flee from home for his life. Another has had his house broken into at night and his son so abused and beaten that he cannot attend school. A third is set on when at evening prayers, his books and clothes torn and he himself beaten. A constable and head of a theatre took a Christian to the Yamên for refusing a subscription to idolatrous theatricals. A headman of a village having a Proclamation sent by the Magistrate for him to post in the village to prevent the Christians being molested, would not put it out, and one of the Christians there was told he need not expect to have his debts paid him. Then a ditch was dug round his house, so that his wife who was blind could not possibly leave it. A placard was put up outside one of our houses accusing the Missionaries of being the chief cause of all China's calamities and urging the people to assemble and exterminate us. A society of several villages, called the Lien Chwang Hwei, has been formed for the purpose of resisting the progress of Christianity. One evening when the Christians were quietly at worship, a number of men belonging to this society fell on them, and twelve were more or less injured.

All this occurred in less than a year from April to October 1883. The year previous the Christians were persecuted by walling their doors and windows at night, by refusing water from the village, or by stoning them as they went to fetch it. Some have had their stacks of winter fuel burnt, and others have had their houses burnt. Some have been swung up by their thumbs over beams, others sent in chains to the Yamên without warrant. Some are threatened to be shot, others compelled to leave the villages where they lived. I have seen a women who had been beaten black and blue, another had her head cut with a sword. Tradesmen form themselves into a society to exact an oath not to enter a place of worship. All Christians, men and women, old and young, baptized and unbaptized, are so accustomed to be abused with bad names in cold blood, that their perseverance is a standing miracle of the glorious power of Christian truth.

Again, the gentry persecute. In one city they combined to make a joint petition to the Magistrate that no house should

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be rented either for chapel or dispensary, and when the British Consul insisted on getting a house, they excited the populace to employ the most abusive language wherever the Missionary appeared on the street, and heaped up such abominable filth before his door night after night that he had eventually to give up the place. In another city one of the gentry went into our school, without asking permission from the Missionary, and after leaving, circulated the report that foreigners kidnap children and send them off to the ports. He visited the leading men of the adjacent streets and exhorted them to get up a row so as to drive the Missionary away. That being unsuccessful he begged the Chih sien and afterwards the Chi-fu to exercise his influence to prevent the Missionary residing in the city. In another city a B.A. (*siu-tsai*) lays a false complaint against three native evangelists, and a warrant is issued at once to arrest them. In another, one of the gentry who had been a military student, armed himself with a sword and headed a mob which battered the door of a newly rented house with stones and bricks and threatened the Missionary's life. He was fortunately absent that night. Placards also were circulated about another house, threatening to burn it down, beat the foreigner and kill the middleman. Prizes were offered for the best essays in the same style as the "Death-Blow to Corrupt Doctrines." The children of Christians are often refused admission to Confucian schools.

But the most formidable opposition is from the officials themselves. On a dozen Christians, who had been attacked, asking the Magistrate for redress, he abused them soundly for leaving the religion of their ancestors and told them to go home and live in peace! When the Missionary appealed in their behalf nothing was done. When a Christian was brought to the Yamên for not subscribing to theatricals he was punished, ostensibly for transgressing Yamên etiquette. Afterward he was prevented from opening his shop, and, asking protection, was told by the Magistrate, "You are a Chinese subject, wear Chinese clothes, eat Chinese food, trade with your own countrymen; why do you follow foreign heresies?"

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In one village three attacks were made on the Christians in one month, and when redress was sought, not only was none given, but they were told by the Magistrate that they made a great mistake if they expected foreign Missionaries would be able to protect them all their lives. When Proclamations *are* issued to prevent the Christians being molested, the very rare occasions on which their persecutors are punished at all, tend to make them nothing more than a dead letter.

Soldiers rush into a house with swords and spears and create a disturbance while the Christians are in the midst of their worship. A Manchu Lieutenant-general puts forth a Proclamation forbidding the Manchus coming near the Missionary, and the Manchu city for a long time after was so hostile that the Missionary had to go round the city instead of through to avoid the insult and abuse consequent on walking quietly through it. A husband goes to the Yamên to beg for redress for his wounded wife. For two days he has to wait and be abused by the underlings for becoming a Christian, and when he does see the official he is exhorted to live at peace with his neighbours and sent home with a plaster to put on the wound. That is his redress! A Missionary rents a house in that city and the neighbours object. He says he is willing to take any other they will get instead. They refuse to get him any, and he takes possession temporarily until he can get another, and then a man arms himself with a sword and gathers a mob, and attacks the house at night. The District Magistrate refuses to punish the leader in any way; on the contrary a warrant was issued to arrest the landlord and middlemen as if criminals, although *they* were among the chief of the gentry.

The Magistrate further invites the leader of the disturbance and a few of the gentry to his Yamên and tells them that in Honan once, when a mob set fire to a Missionary's house, he ran away and was so scared that he never returned again. The bluntest present could not misunderstand his suggestion. When placards were put out against the Missionary's occupying a house where there were *no* neighbours objecting to his doing so, threatening to burn, injure and kill, the Magistrate

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positively refused to take any action to check the lawlessness. On appealing to the Chi-fu, he also refused to interfere, referring the Missionary to the Chih sien again, and then instead of the Chih sien doing any thing, he had the audacity to repeat the threat of burning the house in the face of the Missionary. The Chi-fu threatened to dismiss from his Yamên a man who had been friendly for years to the Missionaries, unless he discontinued his visits to them. Then, when the majority of the people were friendly or indifferent, the Chi-fu, Chih sien and a military official in the place instigated a lawless rabble to make mischief. The result was not only to make it extremely difficult for Missionaries to rent new houses, but to retain those in which they lived. One landlord has refused to keep the agreement formerly made unless more money be given.

The above difficulties occurred in the prefecture of Tsingchou in Shantung. In the prefecture of Tsinan we have work in five other counties (*hsiens*). Some of our evangelists in those districts had been assaulted arrested and driven out. To prevent repetition of the same lawlessness, a polite letter was sent to each Magistrate of the five districts, requesting the issue of Proclamations to instruct the people not to molest preachers peaceably pursuing their calling, &c. Only *one* sent a civil answer, two refused, one sent no reply, and the fifth contemptuously refused to see even the card, adding: "Is not the Governor gone to Chefoo to exterminate all the foreign devils?" and other violent and abusive language which the messenger would not repeat.

To sum up, all the above took place in the English Baptist Mission alone, mainly in the prefectures of Tsingchou and Tsinan, in the province of Shantung. With *one* exception all the cases have occurred within two years. Not that there were no persecutions before, for very severe cases occurred, but those took place at a time when a colleague now absent in Europe was in charge. These not being so well known to us are therefore omitted.\*

\* See *Chinese Recorder*, July-August, 1884, "Christian Persecutions in China—the Nature, Causes Remedies."

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## CONCLUSION.

Such are some of the facts of the case, many more might have been added, but these, perhaps, will be sufficient, both in number and variety, to enable the reader to draw some conclusion as to the position of affairs, and the necessity for action; for whilst it is true that in many instances riotous proceedings have been promptly suppressed by Chinese officials, and in many more, vigorous action on the part of Foreign Consuls has obtained redress for injuries sustained after riots have occurred, there still remains a long list of persecutions, which loudly demand remonstrance and suppression.

Lawless rowdyism, brutal and unprovoked assaults, unchecked incendiarism, abusive and inflammatory manifestoes are against all law, Chinese or European, and, like the Dynamite Explosions of the West, should be put a stop to, irrespective of nationality, political party, or religious creed. On this point there can be no question. But if this is to be effectually accomplished, we must get to the root of the evil, and search out the real causes of these things. After careful perusal of the facts, we are led to the following conclusions:—

1. That, whilst there have been instances of united and determinate opposition on the part of the people (apart from the action and attitude of the local officials), these cases are comparatively rare, and that without other incitement, riots, originating with the masses, would be of infrequent occurrence.

Base and violent men are to be found in every large city, whether in China or elsewhere, but it is a well known fact that where the Magistrates are well disposed such persons in China are easily kept in check and seldom dare to disturb the public peace by lawless and disorderly proceedings.

2. That when such disturbances have taken place they might, in most cases, have been suppressed by the local authorities.

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We have but to compare the peace which has reigned within the borders of the Fuhkien province with the rioting which has been so rampant in Kwangtung. If anywhere in China we might have expected disorder, it would surely have been in the Fuhkien province, where the Chinese have suffered such disastrous defeat during the present war, and yet we find a Missionary writing "that whilst there have been a few cases of abuse and loss of property, there is not known to have been a single case of personal injury to a native Christian connected with either of the three Missions on account of the war." And again:—"For the last few months the Missionaries visiting out-stations and touring in the country have been well received, and have brought back favourable reports respecting the work." And the same may be said of almost every station, where the same precautions have been taken as were taken in Fuhkien, that is, where the local authorities have co-operated with the Foreign Consuls in honest endeavour to repress all hostile outbreaks, or have themselves issued Proclamations to that effect, as in the case of the Pok-lo Magistrate in Kwangtung.

3. That the main cause of these persecutions is traceable to the attitude, or the action, of the officials. This is notably the case in the Canton province, where the lower officials have so faithfully followed the example of the higher. In proof of this, we have but to point to the Proclamation and the Memorial of H.E. Pên Yu Lin, and to the Proclamation of the Provincial Judge.

No wonder, when such proclamations are issued by the Provincial Authorities, that District Magistrates feel free to adopt a policy of inaction, or one of direct hostility, and the "gentry" to follow suite. And when it is generally known that such is the attitude of the officials, it is not difficult to predict the result. Indeed, it is not saying too much to assert that, if Chinese officials determined to do so, in nine cases out of ten, they could prevent such riotous outbreaks as those which have recently occurred.

What then, it may be asked, is the remedy for this state of things? We may briefly reply, that it is to be found in



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*the exact definition of, and simple adherence to, established and acknowledged Law.*

Let the status of the Foreign Missionary and that of the Native Convert be clearly defined and widely made known by the Central Government, and let the Great Provincial Authorities be made to understand that such status must be honestly respected by the local Magistrates, and let this be done openly and generously, and persecutions such as are now complained of would soon become things of the past.

For lack of this, we find in Government Despatches, in Official Proclamations, in Memorials to the Throne, and in Village Regulations, an underlying assumption that Chinese Christians are "rebels against the Government," "seditious," and "disorderly," and hence, that it is but patriotic to rise up against them. Now, so long as this impression is allowed to prevail, what can we expect but animosity and persecution?

If, however, the status of Chinese Christians were but clearly defined, their amenableness to law on the one hand, and their religious rights on the other—and this made known by a Proclamation throughout the Empire, similar to the one issued in the case of Mr. Margary's murder, much animosity would die out, and much persecution pass away.

The same may be said with regard to the Foreign Missionary. If the status of Missionaries, too, were but clearly defined—their position as Teachers of Religion and Morals on the one hand, and as private citizens holding no official rank on the other—many suspicions would be allayed, and many dangers evaded.

But exact definition without a righteous enforcement of the law would avail but little. Violators of the public peace should be dealt with as other violators of a nation's laws. Officials who, whether by action or inaction, connive at or instigate the riotous proceedings of the mob should be dealt with more severely than that mob.

And as in regard to the slave trade, questions of nationality are sunk in the vaster interests of humanity, so in regard to brutal persecution, lawless rioting, and inhuman

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cruelty, the claims of humanity should supersede all narrower claims and the protection of the persecuted be as dear to us as the rescue of the slave.

But whether the ægis of official protection be thrown over the persecuted Chinese Christians or not, of one thing we are "persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate" them from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.




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An English Wesleyan Missionary, Rev. G. Hargreaves, in a letter to the *China Mail* of March 6th 1884, about numerous outrages in Southern China; said—"The American Consul deserves all praise for the manner in which he has sustained the privileges and rights of his countrymen. Notwithstanding the boasted prestige of England, an Englishman cannot get his affairs attended to with the same dispatch or completeness."

*No. 88*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*August 27<sup>th</sup> 1885*



FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Ades,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Tea*

SYNOPSIS.

*Sample of "Spent tea-leaves  
refined", after the strength of  
the tea had been exhausted,  
used to improve appearance of "siftings",  
or dust and broken leaves of tea.*

No. 88

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

August 27<sup>th</sup> 1885

H. H. H. H.

Third Asst. Sec. of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor, in further compliance with instructions in the dispatch from the Department of State, dated June 9<sup>th</sup> 1885, numbered 62; and in continuation of my dispatch No. 84, dated 10<sup>th</sup> instant, and my dispatch No. 88, dated 22<sup>nd</sup> instant, to inform you that "old American Merchant," who endeavored and failed to obtain the sample of adulterated tea described in my dispatch No. 84 as "B," has learned, and informed me, that

(Shipments)

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specimens of that mixture have  
 been discontinued at those and London.  
 The tea, however, today found  
 as a "sample" or sample of  
 "spent tea leaves refired",  
 called in Chinese "Ching Suey",  
 which literally means "Clean Water",  
 that is to imply really that "the  
 strength of the tea is exhausted" -  
 the leaves having been once used in  
 hotels and restaurants, where they are  
 said to be "refired", and used to improve  
 the appearance of the broken tea leaves  
 and dust, classed in London market as "Siftings".  
 This sample I will mail direct to the Department,  
 labeled "E".

I am, Sir,  
 Your Obedient Servant,  
 Charles Seymour  
 W. & A.



No. 89.



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

October 3<sup>rd</sup> 1885

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Alden,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

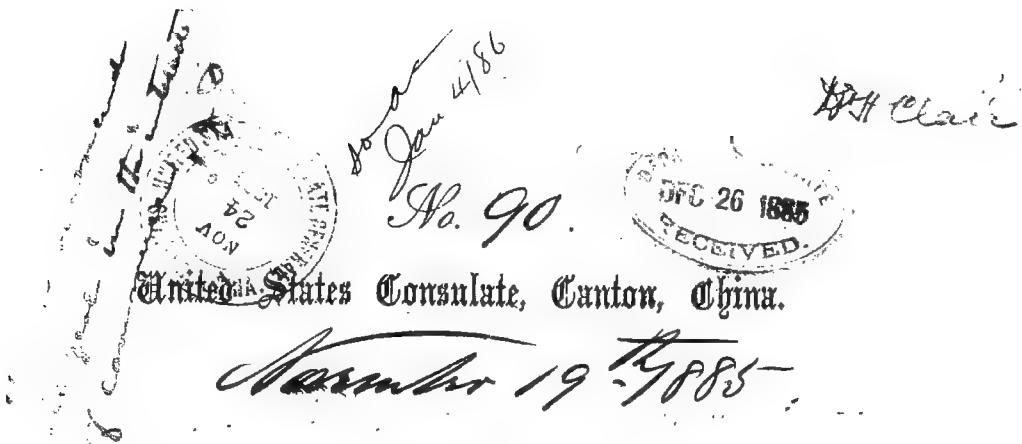
Subject.

Transmitting Quarterly Account,  
with Vouchers, and Returns,  
for 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 1885.

SYNOPSIS.

Account for Post and Miscellaneous Expenses.  
Vouchers in Duplicate, and Returns,  
for Quarter ending Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> 1885.





FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. James D. Porter,  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

United action of Consuls  
for  
restoration of navigation in Southern Channel of River

SYNOPSIS.

Variation of proceedings  
in regard to obstructions in,  
and navigation of Canton River



No. 90

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

November 19<sup>th</sup> 1885—  
Hon James D. Porter.  
Ass. Sec. of State.  
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform  
you, in reference to the removal of obstructions  
in the Canton River; referred to in my  
dispatch N. 80, under date of July 6. 1885;  
and in dispatch N. 70 from the Department  
of State, under date of August 27. 1885; that  
the Chinese authorities did not act fairly  
or properly in regard to this matter; and that  
although the Northern and inferior channel  
was cleared of torpedoes, and restored to navigation  
September 17. 1885; the Southern and  
better channel is yet obstructed.

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Notwithstanding the restoration of peace between China and France was proclaimed throughout the world in May 1885; and the French had withdrawn their war-vessels from Chinese ports (except the Pescadore) in June 1885, and left the Pescadore early in July 1885; the Chinese Authorities at Canton maintained all of the War restrictions on Commerce, even to compelling foreign ships and steamers to take and pay Chinese "torpedo-pilots", and suspend night navigation on the northern or shallow channel of the River, until September 17. 1885, or about a third of a year after restoration of peace and continues the obstructions in the northern or deep-water channel, which enabled men drawing from 16 to 18 feet of water to pass safely and comfortably between Canton and the

3

The present Viceroy of the Two  
Guangs (Guang-Tung and Guang-Si),  
named "Chang Chih-tung"; and  
the Imperial Commissioner "Bang",  
in charge of military and naval operations  
and defenses in Southern China; (both  
at Canton) are determined and abettors  
of anti-foreign measures  
and non-intercourse policy.

They are in favor of retaining  
the obstructions permanently in the  
Southern Channel; not only to avoid  
the expense of removing those obstructions,  
of piles, stones, and sunken junks; but  
to prevent foreign war vessels of the  
larger class from approaching Canton.

The northern Channel being more  
shallow, and having only about eleven  
or twelve feet of water at high tides,  
and only about six feet of water on  
the "Salt Flats", a few miles below Canton,  
at low tides, is secure against the  
savage of large vessels; and can be  
quickly made unavailable for  
navigation, by torpedoes and sunken junks.

4/

Announcements and frequent changes having occurred at Canton, during the year 1885, in the Consular Officials, there has been very little opportunity to unite the influence of the several Consulates in favor of the removal of the river obstructions, or any other important measure that required unanimity, persistence, and continuity of effort and action, until now.

The Foreign Legations at Peking have not been in full force, as when in charge of Ministers; and although those Legations were in hands of able men, the Chinese officials do not respect the wishes and suggestions of Foreign officials who are known to be only temporarily in charge of Legations and Consulates, as they do when "Ministers Plenipotentiary" are in Peking to look after foreign interests.

A brother of the Viceroy of the Province is a member of the "Grand Council" and one of the advisers and counselors of the Emperor. Thus the Governor General of the Province has evidently relied upon his policy being sustained by the Throne.

5

The return of the fleet of Steam-ships (about thirty), from the American Firm of Messrs Russell and Company, to the "China Merchant Steam Navigation Company," on the first of August 1885, left "American interests," in respect to navigation between Canton and the Ocean, in such diminished proportion, that, doubtless, the Viceroy thought they would not be likely to suffer seriously by any obstructions.

However, after subsiding as gracefully as possible, under the loss of my Constituency, or the diminution of "American interests", I felt constrained to remind His Excellency the Viceroy on the 13<sup>th</sup> August 1885, as per appended Copy, marked  $\frac{A}{1}$ , that the conditions were then favorable for the consummation of the purpose or wish he had conveyed in regard to the removal of the river obstructions, as set forth in the Copy of a translation of the Viceroy's dispatch, which was inclosed in my dispatch to the Department No. 80 under date of July 6, 1885.

6/  
B/  
2

The Viceroy's reply of August 21, 1885, received August 22, 1885, as per appended copy of the translation marked B 7 indicated that the deep-water navigation of the Southern Channel of the River was a matter of uncertainty.

The British and German Consuls continued correspondence with the Viceroy on the subject without any favorable result.

Feeling that the case must sooner or later receive the best attention of the foreign Legations at Peking, and possibly of the Governments of the Nations interested and concerned, I have endeavored, and with some success, to get the nine Consulates at Canton, representing Great Britain, Germany, France, United States of America, Austria-Hungary, the Netherlands, Sweden and Norway, Denmark, and Japan, to unite in sending to the Governor General of Peking an identical dispatch, respectfully demanding the restoration of the navigation, by the South Channel between Canton and the Sea, to international Commerce.

8

The Consuls unanimously adopted my letter, drawn after carefully ascertaining how far we could go unitedly, without giving His Excellency opportunity or occasion to raise questions on points that had been subjects of controversy between himself and any of the Consular Officials.

The Consuls also adopted one and the best possible Chinese translation of the dispatch to be sent to the Viceroy by all of the Consuls simultaneously; and in getting that translation the best talent of the combined Consulate was secured for co-operation.

These conferences of the Consuls have been held at the United States Consulate - the U.S. Consul being "Senior Consul."

The identic letter was adopted 7<sup>th</sup> instant - the translation 10<sup>th</sup> instant.

Appended and marked  $\frac{C}{3}$  is a copy of the prepared letter to the Viceroy; the delivery of which was postponed on the 10<sup>th</sup> instant, until the German Consul receives instructions, as advised on that day by telegram from the German Legation.

The German Consul called today to inform me that he this morning received instructions from the German Legation to join with the other Consuls in asking the Viceroy to restore the navigation of the Southern Channel of the Pearl or Canton River. Unfortunately, the German Consul had about two months ago suggested to the Viceroy that if he decided to not re-open the Southern ship channel, he should place Custom House officers at the Ship Anchorage at Whampoa, about twelve miles below Canton, to facilitate the loading and unloading and business of the Ocean steamers and ships. Consequently the German Consul is compelled to preface the identical dispatch by referring to his former suggestion, which the Viceroy quickly favored and referred to the Customs Department at Peking. The German Consul in adopting the "identical letter" or "dispatch" by incorporating it in his dispatch to the Viceroy a day or two hence, assures His Excellency that the former suggestion about Custom House facilities at Whampoa is not approved by the business community.



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We are now enabled to present the case to His Excellency, the Governor General or Viceroy, with a solid front; and if he refuses compliance with this reasonable demand of the Consuls; we can send the case in good shape to our respective Legations, for their united action at Peking, with the probability of success.

It is certainly an important point gained, to have secured unanimity of action; which will terminate the possibility of the Chinese ~~Stall~~ rather to continue frivolous controversy, with the Consuls separately, while postponing the restoration of navigation; which the Viceroy and Imperial Commissioner intend shall remain obstructed permanently, to exclude foreign war-vessels from approaching the City of Canton.

I am, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant  
Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul.

Copy4

Consulate of the United States of America.

Canton, China. August 13<sup>th</sup> 1885.

To His Excellency,

"Chang".

Governor General of the Tsin-chung, Canton.

Sir:

The American Consul had the honor to receive from Your Excellency about a month and a half ago the assurance that soon after the departure of the French "Man-of-war" from the Peccadones, measures would be adopted for the removal of obstructions from the Canton River, which fact was communicated by the American Consul to the Governments of the United States of America; and to others directly and immediately interested.

The conditions now existing being favorable, and based on established and proclaimed peace, the American <sup>Consul</sup> has the honor most respectfully to suggest to Your Excellency that we have now in the port of Canton an experienced, competent, and trustworthy naval officer, Captain Higginson, commanding the United States "Man-of-war" "Monocacy", who has had an experience of over a quarter of a century in the United States navy, and is thoroughly acquainted with the science of navigation.

This accomplished officer has authorized the American Consul and the entire Consular Corps, at Canton, to express his willingness to accompany any duly authorized Chinese officials for an inspection of the two channels between Canton and the sea; and give such advice, counsel, and co-operation as he is capable of giving, concerning the best, most effective, and economical, plan for accomplishing

the removal of those obstructions; and for the restoration of the navigation of this river.

It is distinctly understood and expressed that Captain Higginson seeks no benefit, remuneration, or compensation for his services; which are tendered gratuitously, respectfully and honorably, in the interest of inter-national commerce.

Any expenses thereby incurred should be defrayed by the Chinese Authorities.

The American Consul avails himself of this opportunity to renew assurances of highest esteem, with compliments and card.

(signed) Charles Seymour  
Consul of the United States of America.

Translation.

B  
2

An official reply from the Governor General of the Two Luangs, to Charles Seymour Esquire, U. S. Consul, residing at Canton, with regard to obstructions in the Pearle River.

In the 11<sup>th</sup> year of Kuangshü, 7<sup>th</sup> moon, 4<sup>th</sup> day, (August 13, 85) an official communication was received from His Honor the Consul, (here in the communication is quoted verbatim et literatim), of which I the Viceroy have had a thorough perusal. It appears that the river passage from "Hü-mün" (Boca Tigris) to Canton, is divided into two branches or channels viz: the North and the South, commencing at "Cheung Chaw", the lower point of Whampoa, the South channel passing through or by "Sha Lin", and the North channel that of "Yü Chü", through both of which, Shamoen can be directly reached. Last year, when the Province of Kwang Tung was carrying on defensive operations, the "Sha Lin" branch or the South channel was closed by obstructions; of the "Yü Chü" branch or the North channel, there remains a gap or entrance, through which, Chinese and foreign vessels of heavy and light tonnage can pass in and out.

Up to the present, after an interval of ten months, the Chinese and foreign commerce has not in the least suffered impediment.

It was exceedingly easy to let down obstructive materials, but it would be indeed difficult to excavate them. Now, as to the consultation of undertaking the excavation, the work or enterprise would be momentous; and can never be accomplished in one morning and evening. As it does not afford much obstruction to

merchant vessels, it is well and necessary to seriously considered what plan to be adopted for action.

With reference to torpedoes, they are being one after the other taken up and the work of taking them up will soon be finished.

On receipt of the communication, it is proper to officially reply to His Honor the Consul for consideration and for notifying naval officer Higginson of the Honored Country.

{ Quangui 11<sup>th</sup> year, 7<sup>th</sup> moon, 12<sup>th</sup> day }  
August 21<sup>st</sup> 1885.

(Copy)

$\frac{C.}{3}$

Consulate of the United States of America.

Canton, November 21<sup>st</sup> 1885.

To His Excellency,

Chang.

Governor General of the Two Shans, Canton.

Sir:

The American Consul has the honor to inform Your Excellency that there is one very important matter of business, affecting alike all countries having Treaties with China, in which the Government of the United States of America requires the utmost vigilance and fidelity on the part of its Consular officials; and that is the maintenance of inter-national commerce in entire integrity.

To this end Treaties have been made between the Government of China and other Governments; and if any Nation, in time of peace, maintains artificial obstructions to navigation, by barriers, sunden junks, deposits of stone, etc, in its rivers; and thereby affects injuriously the rights of navigation of nations in friendly relations with it, such obstructions to navigable waters, required for inter-national commerce, is considered by inter-national law as an unfriendly act toward such nations.

Your Excellency entered the Port of Canton, during the month of June of the last year, in a superb and capacious Ocean steamship, the "Kwang Lee," by the Southern

channel, or "Macao Reach," through which large sea-going vessels or ships, laden to the depth of from sixteen to eighteen English feet, could pass comfortably and safely between Canton and the sea.

In a few weeks after Your Excellency's arrival, that magnificent and natural highway of commerce, which enabled fleets of ocean steamships, from the various ports of the sea-coast, to frequent the harbor in front of this ancient and opulent commercial Metropolis of Southern China, was closed by barriers of piles, junks, and stones.

China has erected an excellent and creditable system of light-houses for the security of commerce along its coast; and has established Custom-Houses for the collection of revenue on imports and exports; and has entered into Treaties with various Governments for promotion of commerce, and Chinese merchants and manufacturers, as well as those from foreign countries, by virtue of treaty stipulations and guaranty, have invested their capital in business enterprises more or less identified with foreign commerce.

It is to be deeply regretted, that in spite of the otherwise benevolent attitude of China toward a free interchange of commodities, the great deep water navigation between Canton and the ocean is obstructed; and the inferior and shallow Northern channel, with only six English feet depth of water, is available, during low-tides, for

commercial vessels.

Practically and really, Canton is a sufferer by existing arrangements; which are driving trade in many important commodities away from this city to Hongkong and Macao.

The United States or American Consul fails to perceive any valid reason for a continuance of the river obstructions, which are inflicting serious injury to wide-spread commercial interests, by excluding navigation from the deep-water channel, and restricting commerce to the shallow-water route.

The American Consul ventures the hope that Your Excellency will be convinced of the reasonableness of this representation of facts, touching interests of importance to many nations in friendly relations with China; and will order that an opening of at least two hundred Chinese feet shall be made at the barriers on the Southern deep-water channel between Canton and the sea.

Sincerely hoping Your Excellency will take a statesman-like view of the question, and restore to commerce the navigation of this noble and natural commercial highway, which, under the benignant influences of peace, and friendly intercourse, and promotion of mutual interests, should be a blessing.



*to China and to the world, the American Consul  
avails himself of this opportunity to renew his  
assurances of highest esteem, with compliments  
and card.*

*(signed) Charles Seymour  
Consul of the United States of America.*

*Jy-H. Clair*



*No. 91*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*November 19<sup>th</sup> 1885*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. James D. Porter,  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Railways in China.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Inclosing Memorials  
of the late  
"Tso Tung-Tung"  
in favor of Railways.*

No. 91

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

November 19<sup>th</sup> 1885

Honorable D. Porter.

Asst. Secy. of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to send  
you herewith and appended  
Copies of an extraordinary and  
interesting document - being the  
Memorial of a distinguished  
Chinese Official, named "Tso  
Tsung Chang", to the Imperial  
Government of China, in whose  
service he had passed a life,  
full of honor and usefulness.  
It was his last counsel  
to the Government of China.

It is receiving much attention throughout the Empire, as an indication of progress.

He died a few months ago; and his death is deeply lamented.

Your attention is very respectfully called to passages marked, in favor of railways, respecting which, reference was made in my dispatch N<sup>o</sup> 74, dated June 13, 1885; at which time I did not expect such an emphatic vindication of my statements would so soon appear as this Memorial from that eminent Chinaman.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant  
Charles Seymour  
W. F. Jones

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

NOV 25 1885  
RECEIVED

Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> 1885

Governor James D. Porter.

Washington D.C.

Dear Sir.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> instant, with my dispatch N<sup>o</sup> 91, I mailed to the Department a couple of pamphlets like the one inclosed; containing matter that is receiving much attention among natives and foreigners, in regard to the introduction of a system of railways in China; as the Memorial emanated from a distinguished Chinese official, of the Conservative school. I beg you will append to the margin on the upper half of the 7<sup>th</sup> page inclosed slips, to define the locality he indicated for the first line of R.R.

Very Respectfully,  
Your obedient servant  
Charles E. Seymour

I found this pamphlet in type at the printing office, use in one of the Chinese government schools, where English language is taught to Chinese students; hence the opportunity to get copies for American use. C.

✓

*With Compliments of*  
CHARLES SEYMOUR, U. S. CONSUL, CANTON.  
THE MEMORIAL,  
BY THE LATE IMPERIAL COMMISSIONER,  
TSO TSUNG-T'ANG,  
to the  
IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT OF CHINA,  
in  
1885,  
IS INTERESTING AS AN INDICATION OF THE SPIRIT OF  
PROGRESS IN CHINA.

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The Memorialist, in compliance with an Imperial Decree directing him to make propositions for the necessary coast defences, prostrate requests the establishment of a special Minister of Coast Defence, with full powers, so as to have the direction of affairs centralised, and all the conditions of coast defence under one control; and begs Their Majesties' Sacred Glance upon his Memorial. The Memorialist humbly states that on the 25th day of the 5th moon, 11th year of Kuang Hsü, he received from the Cabinet Ministers an Imperial Decree promulgated on the 9th day of the 5th moon. "Although all the conditions of peace are completed, still there should be no laxity in preparing coast defence. Great and sincere exertions should be made for the future well being, so that the defences may be relied upon long and permanently. Obey this!" The Memorialist, looking upwards, perceives that Their Majesties are profound in their designs, caring for future contingencies, and showing deep solicitude for the coast provinces; all of which calls forth unspeakable admiration. The old age and the many ailments of the Memorialist render him unfit to animadvert upon and take in every affair of state; still if the Memorialist discerns anything (beneficial to the state) how dare he disobey Their Majesties' order? and he therefore presents the following propositions, which may Their Majesties be pleased to select from and approve.

The Memorialist humbly finds that the western countries have modelled and manufactured constantly for tens and hundreds of years guns and ships, thereby becoming powers on the seas, and doing what they wished to do in all things. Were the military preparations of China of twenty years ago compared with those of the west, we should be in no position to face them (foreign armies and navies) in a single engagement. But during the last ten or more years China has begun to establish gradually dock-yards, arsenals, and naval academies; although things have not been carried to perfection, yet the fundamental principles have been acquired. From this fact a year ago when the French troubles were initiated the Chinese were able to join in battle with the enemy, who retreated before the fire of our tremendous guns at Chin-hai. The successful result of our military preparations is obvious. Taking the present condition of our navy into consideration, the memorialist is sincerely of the opinion that the Chinese are inferior to foreigners in drill and practice. Still, even foreigners admit that the Chinese are very clever and quick with eyes, ears, and thoughts; and if

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those who hold superior positions would learn in all sincerity, following the good points of the foreigners, it would be possible even to direct their destinies, not to speak of protecting our own country. In another Imperial Decree the Memorialist reverentially perused the following: —“ We, in planning and preparing defences, have built dockyards and established a navy, yet the ships built are not strong, the arms manufactured are not perfect, officers selected are not experienced, the funds devised are not sufficiently ample.” The Memorialist is of opinion that in building ships iron-clads should take the lead, and in manufacturing arms steel-guns ought to be considered essential. A Memorial proposing the building of large dockyards and arsenals with all the particulars fully set forth has already been laid before the Throne by the Memorialist; since to purchase ships and guns is not so advantageous as to build and manufacture them. The Fuhkien Arsenal is not so spacious as to admit the building of large iron-clads; and the request for establishing big dockyards is of imperative importance, permitting no delay. The Memorialist hears that the former Acting Governor-General of Hukwang, Pien Pao-ti, proposed starting an arsenal at the entrance of Fan yang Hu in Kiangsi. The Yangtzu river below Hankow and Wuchang is now here so deep and so dangerous to navigation by the banks and indentations as this place (Fan yang Hu) and the Memorialist begs Their Majesties to order the Governors of Hupei and Kiangsi to despatch officials to have the place sounded and to deliberate upon the advisability of carrying out the propositions. The breechloading big guns are to be speedily manufactured as soon as the arsenals are finished. Perhaps it is more expedient as the Memorialist thinks to order the arsenals in Kiangnan and Kuangtung to first try manufacturing (big breechloading guns) as experiments, so as not to waste money and commit mistakes. All these should be taken into early consideration. The Memorialist considers that the chief importance of organizing coast defence is to have a proper man to take charge of it. That the Chinese navy is ineffective, some attribute to the want of exertion (on the part of the authorities); yet among the metropolitan and provincial officials patriotic and good men are not wanting. There must be some reason which accounts for the hindrance which interferes with every step that is taken (in naval affairs). The Memorialist is acting as Commissioner for the Defence of the Seaboard and adviser to the Cabinet; and he humbly perceives that on account of the direction of affairs not being centralized everything is difficult of management. The reason is this. The power of the Board Ministers is great, because they receive direct Decrees from the Throne to deliberate in unison; but in every matter whether great or small they



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mostly propose and follow out the requests of the high provincial authorities. The power of provincial Viceroy and Governors is limited to the territory under their control; even the High Commissioners of the Northern and Southern Oceans are not at liberty to intrude into the matters of a province not under their jurisdiction. As Their Majesties have truly said, to start and build ships and manufacture arms in a single corner of the Empire is not arranging a complete state of coast defence. If it is now desired to expunge the evil of orders not being executed effectively, it is necessary to select with care a virtuous and able man, and raise him to a high post which is to be called either Minister Plenipotentiary for Coast Defence, or Minister of the Board of Marine. In all matters relating to coast defence, the Minister calculating upon the entire state of affairs under his control can report to the Throne and act. He should have full powers to select officers, drill soldiers, devise funds, and build ships. His permanent residence should be on the Yangtzu; but southward he should watch over Fuhkien and Kuangtung, and northward guard the seat of Government. He should be at liberty either to perform his duties in his yamên or to make his tours of inspection about all places under his control, as circumstances demand, without being fettered in any respect. An assistant Minister should also be chosen, to give advice and help to his chief when in the yamên: superintend the works, and guard the office when the first Minister is away on his tours. When powers are vested in a single person he cannot shirk his responsibilities: then success may be immediately looked for. But such a Minister occupying such a high position and shouldering such enormous responsibilities must be a man of excellent character and repute, well versed in foreign studies and respected by both foreigners and Chinese. As to the various details the Memorialist cannot propose beforehand lest a pre-established opinion may cause mistakes. The Memorialist, enjoying high Imperial favours without being able to repay a particle, tremblingly following the precept of the Holy Philosophers of taking warning of the past, and care of the future, and laying before Their Majesties his humble and limited experience, now presents the seven propositions which are possible to decide on for the Imperial perusal, and awaits a Decree for their execution and Their Majesties' instructions.

I.—War-ships must be built in sufficient numbers. Foreign navies have fast-steaming cruisers, gunboats, fish-torpedoes to assist their strong and powerful ironclads, transports to carry provisions, steam-launches and gigs to facilitate every movement; just as the Chinese land forces, consisting of infantry, cavalry, battalions of gingals and shields, which combined form an army,—because they are in need of each other

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they benefit one another. Since it is proposed to make a grand reorganization of the navy, it is necessary not only to have everything prepared but to have everything perfect. The old-fashioned half-fighting and half-merchant vessels should be made to do duty as transports. The fast-steaming cruisers of the latest pattern are capable to a certain extent to enter into battle; but they cannot fight alone. The entire length of the Chinese sea coast is estimated to be over ten thousand li, and we must at the least have ten large naval squadrons well drilled, each squadron composed of several ironclads and a sufficient number of auxiliary vessels; so that in case of war we may be able to meet the enemy.

II.—The naval regulations must be deliberated upon and adopted. The conditions of the navy established in former times are different from those of the present. Besides the naval forces doing duty in the Yang-tsze and the inland rivers (which are to remain just as they are) the sea forces all along the coast should undergo a thorough uniform change. Moreover the ships of the Nan-yang and Pei-yang are not a well-organized squadron. Henceforth, since the sea forces are to be reorganized, they should be placed under the direction of the Minister Plenipotentiary for Coast Defence. Each squadron should have a commander equivalent to the rank of general in land forces and an assistant commander equivalent to the rank of commandant on land; then should come officers holding ranks equivalent to colonels and lieutenants in the military sense. All promotions, changes, despatches for service, and bestowals of posts among naval officers are to be reported to the Throne by the Administrator of Coast Defence before being carried into effect. The territorial authorities are only to have control over land forces garrisoning the port. Unless extraordinary emergency demands they are not at liberty to summon naval squadrons to their assistance. In performing all official journeys and business, special boats must be requisitioned; the war-ships cannot be indiscriminately employed.

III.—Rules must be established for patrolling, guarding, drilling, and practising, so as to constantly exercise the squadrons. If the ten squadrons were only doing the duties of defence without constantly cruising about, being drilled and kept in practice, they might be numerous but they would be of no use. Therefore out of the ten squadrons, it is proposed that eight should be distributed at Taku for Tientsin, Yunchun for Nin-ku-ta, Chefoo for Shantung, Tsung-ming for Kiangnan, Chin-hai for Che-kiang, Foochow for Fuhkien, Formosa and the Pescadores, and Kiung-chow (Hainan) and Canton for Kwangtung. Each squadron is to be stationed at the places assigned to it;

Amoy, Swatow, Chinkiang, Peitang and other places will have warships stationed within their harbours, detached from the squadrons that are ordered to watch over the special provinces, and they must be kept in drill and practice morning and night. The eight squadrons stationed at different ports should exchange their posts once in every four months, at which time they should meet in a grand naval rendezvous. As regards the remaining two squadrons one should cruise about Japan the other about the countries of the west (*lit.* Western Oceans) doing the same duty as the ships of other nations in China, protecting the merchants; they can also practise and learn to ride the storms, find out about sand-banks and shallows, become acquainted with the climate and habits of the people, discern the position and situation (of other countries' coast) and study natural philosophy and manufactures. In case any two countries are at war with each other these two squadrons should go and watch the battles, and at the expiration of a year return to take their place among the squadrons of defence, out of which two others are selected to do duties abroad. A yearly report is to be drawn up by the squadrons for cruise and for defence, detailing the particulars of what they have learned and what they have practised, and presented to the Administration of Coast Defence for examination. The deportment of the officers in each ship is also to be reported and the Throne petitioned to award rewards or penalties as cases may require.

IV.—The various Administrations for various business should be co-operative. Formerly the Memorialist petitioned the Throne to allow the mines of Hsü-chow and Mu-yuen be worked so as to furnish materials for the building of iron-clads and manufacture of steel guns. A Decree was issued ordering the Memorialist to deliberate as to which was the best place to start a foundry. According to ordinary circumstances the Memorialist is of the opinion that the governments of Liang Kiang, Fuhkien, and Chekiang should devise and furnish funds to make an experiment; or that honourable, titled, and wealthy merchants should be requested to issue shares and start the enterprize. Experienced chemists should be employed to explain and find out the best methods of assaying; so that steel and iron may be speedily produced in order to meet all requirements. The fact is that mining and the manufacturing of ships and guns always go together. Now as a Minister Plenipotentiary for Coast Defence is to be appointed, all guns, ships, mines, foundries and ammunitions should be placed under his sole management; for thus duties can be performed in a more expeditious manner. The memorialist proposes to request the Throne, as soon as a proper man is appointed to

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be Minister of board of Marine, to abolish the office of High Commissionership in the Foochow Arsenal, and to allow the Minister to select a man to fill the post in the Arsenal with the approval of Their Majesties. The Arsenals of the other provinces are also to be under the Minister's general direction, so that there may be uniformity in every measure set on foot.

V.—Funds must be generally devised. The Memorialist perceives that in forming the naval squadrons the expenses necessary must be enormous. The yearly expenditure will be about three or four millions. Now our Treasury is in an embarrassed condition, and unless all China exert itself to bring forth its combined resources it is impossible to carry out the plan. The first method of devising funds is to reduce the army. If we decrease the regular army by six-tenths, several millions can be gained. If one-tenth of the funds for recruiting soldiers were reserved, it would bring in hundreds of thousands. Moreover taxes on foreign (goods? or opium?) can be increased, and gun-junks along the coast can be done away with; this increase on the one hand and abolition on the other will result in procuring hundreds of thousands—even millions. May it please Their Majesties to instruct the Boards of Revenue and War to find out what are the present income and expenses, and what these would be after the reductions in the different branches of service are made and how much funds can be devised thus, so that the yearly expenses for Administration of the Coast Defence may be fixed; which sums should be considered as the revenue of the Board, and no province be permitted to be short in its remittance. The various provinces in yearly subsidizing the arsenals and in purchasing foreign goods and foreign materials (for military and naval purposes) expend several tens of thousands. Whatever can be economized out of these every year should be handed over to the Minister of the Board of Marine, who is to render an account of his expenditures to the Throne.

VI.—Railroads must be modelled and built. In foreign countries, trade is the backbone of the State, and China is different from them in condition and circumstances. But railroads are built by the merchants, military movements are benefitted by the roads. Transportation is facilitated and made expeditions, and wherever the railroad extends there benefits accrue. Before the railroads were made, many hindrances were thrown in their path, but when once they came into existence, the people on that account grew rich; countries became powerful; and goods imported were multiplied. That there is every advantage and no detriment is only too obvious. The comments of the masses are multifarious, but there is no necessity to argue with them and explain everything. As



the Analects have it, "The people can be made to follow, but cannot be convinced." Take for instance the telegraph and steam-navigation, things China never had before; yet once they are initiated they become indispensable. If railways are introduced, the benefits that will be derived are of still wider scope. The Memorialist is of opinion that the first railroad should be laid from Tungchow to Ching-kiang-fu so as to connect the pivots of the north and south. Transportation being made easy, the trade will become brisk; military movements being rendered expeditious, the army may be reduced to a great degree. Besides the cost of the road is only several millions; if shares are purchased by mandarins and merchants to make this road as an experiment, the plan can be carried into execution. Moreover it interferes in no respect with the country or the livelihood of the people. When this road is a success it can be extended. A railroad for the north west is especially inevitable in the future. The Memorialist proposes that as soon as the Minister for the Board of Marine is appointed, he is to be instructed to deliberate upon the subject, to devise methods for raising funds, to draw up proposals for carrying the plan into execution, and finally to report everything to the Throne.

(From Tung Chow, near Peking, South 600 miles to Ching-Kiang-fu, near Nanking along the Imperial Canal).

VII.—The ambition of the students must be encouraged. The Government, in selecting students, consider of the first importance morals and accomplishments; for morals are the motive principle, and accomplishments are for action. In the year previous, Pan Yen-tung memorialised the Throne to start a special examination for students who study arts and crafts, and the Memorialist, obeying a Decree, deliberated in unison [with Pan] and framed a circular to the effect that [Confucian] doctrine and arts or crafts are from the same origin and cannot be separated into two different objects; so that able and talented men are to be had even among those who pursue the latter studies. Now the Memorialist, having some personal experience in seaboard affairs and having made minute inquiries in all matters, is of the idea that not only such a college as the one proposed by Li Hung-chang where naval and military men can study polytechnics, manufactures, geography, and laws, so as to combine morals with accomplishments, should be opened, but it is also necessary to start a Government school and to frame regulations in accordance with which scholars may be enabled to advance themselves. Foreign books are to be translated and carefully written out. The students and people are to be instructed so that they can teach each other. Then ability and talent will be inexhaustible. The best methods to be adopted to carry out this project will be proposed by the Minister Plenipotentiary for Coast Defence.

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The Memorialist humbly awaits the Imperial decision on these seven propositions.—*N. C. Daily News. Daily Press, 12th, October, 1885.*

**THE LAST DYING WORDS OF TSO TSUNG-T'ANG.**

*From the Hong Kong Daily Press of the 13th October, 1885.*

The *N. C. Daily News* translates the following documents:—

May it please your Majesties!—Your Majesties' gracious favours unrequited, your servant, sick unto death, utters these valedictory words, and implores that the Sacred Glance may deign to rest thereon.

Your servant, finding his bodily ailments increasing daily, besought an extension of furlough for the purpose of restoring his health. This was granted him on the 25th of the 7th moon, and he prepared forthwith a Memorial of Thanks, at the same time handing over to Yang Ch'ang-chün his Imperial Commissioner's seal and the business connected with the various military departments under his control. Then he would have started upon his homeward journey; but within a couple of days or so severe pains in the loins came on, making it troublesome for him either to sit or stand. His hands and feet were numbed; hot phlegm rose in his throat;—he knew that the end was come.

Your servant, a poor scholar of books, first attracted the attention of His Gracious Majesty the Emperor Hsien Fêng, and has held important posts under three successive reigns. He has assisted at the deliberations of the Privy Council; he has been Commander-in-Chief of the army. Were his corpse to be rolled in a horse's skin, he could not complain that he had not received his due. But now, when peace or war in Annam means the weakness or strength of China,<sup>o</sup> and when your servant, travelling southwards, has to this date not once engaged in conflict with the foe, and made manifest the might of our arms, he feels a grief in life that will prevent him from closing his eyes in death.<sup>t</sup>

Overwhelmed with Imperial kindness, 'tis but a year that your servant took leave of your Majesties; and now he can never again set eyes upon the Divine Countenance, but must wait until, as a dog or a horse, he may discharge his debt in the life to come.<sup>‡</sup> Now he is but a bird which sings a sadder strain as death draws near.

At present, when peace has just been made in the regions of the west,<sup>§</sup> Japan is seeking to thrust herself upon us, and the various nations of Europe watch round us like glaring beasts. Unless we make a great and united effort to close the stable ere the steed be gone; unless we keep our mugwort on hand ready for use,<sup>¶</sup>—in the event of further



trouble arising we shall become weaker, and less able to make an effort, until at length we shall not even be able to attain the point at which we are to-day. Therefore let your Majesties, out of the deliberations of the high officers on the matter of coast defence, come to a rapid decision. Let railways, and mines, and the construction of ships and guns be undertaken at once, as a means of insuring our national prosperity and strength. At the same time, inasmuch as understanding is at the root of all undertakings, let your Majesty the Emperor attend with more and more diligence to the study of our Sacred Books. Be not remiss even in the smallest matter. Daily associate with men of principle, and listen to their counsels. Take what is not absolutely to be spent at the moment, and apply it to the wants of national defence. Be sparing in every-day life, that there may be a fund for circumstances unforeseen. Let the Emperor and his Ministers strive with one accord in what is right to secure what is right, and your servant will seem in the day of his death to be born again into life.

With gasping breath and flowing tears your servant humbly speaks these words, which are copied down to be submitted to careful consideration under your Majesties' mirror-like glance.

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\* That is, if China wants to be strong she must fight.

† As the Chinese believe is the case when any one passes away dissatisfied either with himself or others.

‡ That is, when born again into the world of mortals. A good instance of the manner in which Buddhist superstitions are bound up in the thoughts even of the greatest statesmen.

§ Annam.

¶ For purposes of cauterization, for which it has to be prepared. From a passage in Mencius.

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*From the China Mail of 10th October, 1885.*

While the Imperial favour to me remained still unrequited I was overtaken by severe sickness, and having obtained permission to retire, it only remained for me to hand over my high responsibilities to the Viceroy Yang Chang-sun. Having done this, I should have taken my departure, but for two days I have been unable to move from extreme pain and weakness. Here now, on my death-bed, I call to mind the gracious consideration bestowed upon me, an insignificant scholar, by his Imperial Majesty, granting me audiences and entrusting me with important missions, and subsequent favours received up to the time of my

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last appointment to command in the South, where alas, though ready to die in defence of my country, I cannot boast of any brilliant success! And now my opportunity of beholding the Imperial countenance and of rendering such menial service as befits me, are gone as far as the present life is concerned. But as the last words of a dying man, I say, Now that peace has just been restored with the West, and that the eager and expectant eyes of all European nations are turned Eastward, if China does not repair her defences, before another outbreak of hostilities, but becomes as she must weaker and weaker, the day will come when her salvation will be impossible. I beseech Her Majesty the Empress and His Majesty the Emperor, in conference with the Ministers on measures of national defence, to lose no time in ordering the immediate construction of railways, opening of mines, and building of ships of war, so as to develop the wealth and strength of the Empire. Everything depends on constancy of purpose. I say also let the Emperor give more diligent attention to learning, and self-rectification, let him listen always to honest counsels, let him curtail unnecessary expenses and economise useful wealth, to meet the needs of the Army and of these hard times. Above and below let there be one heart; and in all things seek reality. On this my dying day, I am as I was in my living years. With sighing and tears, yet with care and deliberation, I send up this, humbly petitioning their Majesties to give it their sacred regard.



104  
J. J. R.  
D. J.

No. 92

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

December 31, 1885

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. James D. Porter,  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Including plan of building  
used as U. S. Consulate at Canton;  
and describing rent, owner, purposes, &c.

SYNOPSIS.

No. 92

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

~~Received 11-24-1885~~  
~~Wm. H. Parker~~  
 Asst Secy of State  
 Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to have  
 you, appended hereto, plan of the  
 building used exclusively for the purposes  
 of the U.S. Consulate at Canton, marked A.

In order to convey to you a better  
 idea of the Consulate, I beg the liberty to  
 mail you direct a photograph of the interior.

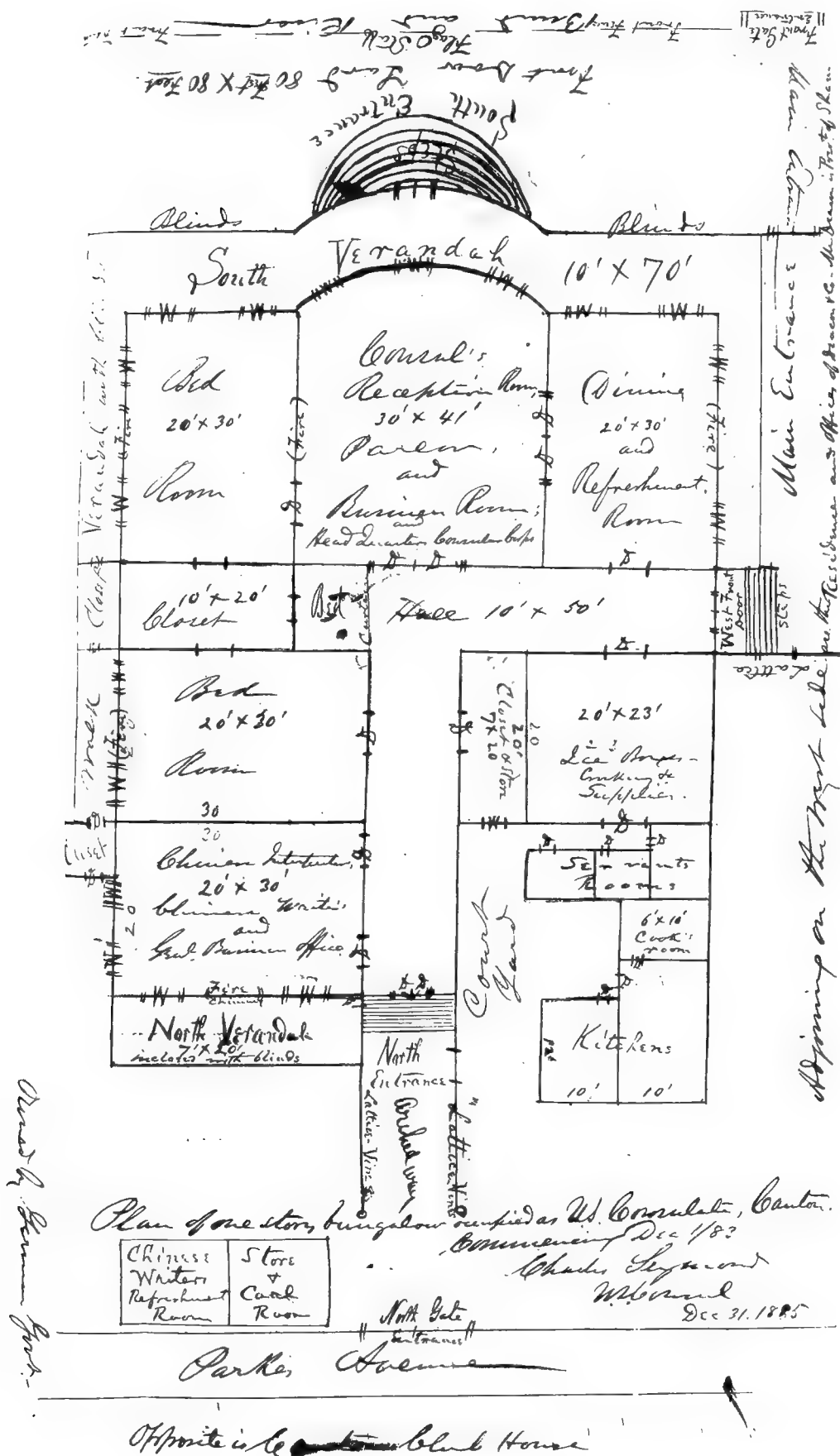
The building occupied as the Consulate  
 of the United States at Canton is a one-story  
 bungalow, well located, and convenient  
 for all having business with it, and  
 meets the requirements of American visitors.

It is the property of Mrs. Mary Thomas, of London, England, who receives One Hundred Dollars in gold per annum as rent for the building and premises; repairs which the Consul is required to make certain repairs. In order to obtain so desirable a location, I paid a bonus of two hundred dollars to Mrs. Thomas.

The United States Consulate at Canton was not of much account, when several of my predecessors had charge of it; but I have spared no effort to make it both useful and respectable; and peculiar exigencies have occurred during the memorable years of 1883 and 1884, which tested its efficiency and influence; respecting which the American residents have testified to the Department.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant

Charles Lawrence  
U. S. Consul.



No. 93

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 7 1886

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. James D. Porter,  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Inclosing Returns, and Account,  
with Vouchers, up to Decr 31. 1885.

SYNOPSIS.

1. Digest of Invoice Book.
2. Arrivals & Departures of American Vessels.
3. Record of Notarial Services: *noted*
4. Summary of Consular Business.
5. Names of Persons employed at Consulate & Agency.
6. List of Dispatches to the Department in 1885.
7. Register of American residents.
8. Quarterly Account, with Vouchers in Duplicate.

No. 93



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 7<sup>th</sup> 1888

Mr. James D. Porter

Asst. Sec. of State

Washington D.C.

Sir

I have the honor to inclose  
Returns, and Account, with Vouchers,  
as required, up to December 31<sup>st</sup> 1885

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul

Form No. 1.

NAMES OF PERSONS employed at the United States Consulate at *Panton, China,*

NAME.	PLACE.	OF WHAT COUNTRY A CITIZEN OR SUBJECT.	RANK.	DATE OF NOMINATION. DATE OF APPROVAL.
<i>Charles Seymour</i>	<i>Formerly of Ladrome, Wisconsin Now residing at Canton</i>	<i>Native of Wisconsin (United States)</i>	<i>U.S. Consul</i>	<i>July, 1882 Aug 1882</i>
<i>Gideon Noye</i>	<i>Formerly of Panton, China</i>	<i>" "</i>	<i>U.S. Vice Consul</i>	<i>1882 1882</i>
<i>William Roy Woo</i>	<i>Formerly of Canton</i>	<i>Subject of China</i>	<i>Interpreter</i>	<i>May 27, 1885 Aug 13, 1885</i>
<i>Lee Yi Lin</i>	<i>" "</i>	<i>" "</i>	<i>Chinese Interpreter</i>	<i>1881 1881</i>
<i>Names of persons employed at the U.S. Consular Agency at Panton, China</i>				
<i>Baron von Schenkendorff</i>	<i>Formerly of Panton</i>	<i>Germany</i>	<i>U.S. Consul Agency</i>	<i>Nov 1, 1883 Nov 1, 1883</i>
<i>" "</i>	<i>" "</i>	<i>China</i>	<i>Interpreter</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>" "</i>	<i>" "</i>	<i>" "</i>	<i>Writer</i>	<i>" " "</i>

571 Clear  
No. 94  
United States Consulate, Canton, China.  
January 25<sup>th</sup> 1888  
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JAN 16 1888  
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FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. James D. Porter,  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Case of M<sup>r</sup>. versus John Stegney,  
in  
M<sup>r</sup>. Consular Court, at Canton.

SYNOPSIS.

Particulars of the Case.  
Account of expenses \$75.54.  
Vouchers in duplicate.  
Draft drawn 15<sup>th</sup> \$75.54



No. 94

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 25-1888  
Mr. James D. Torbit  
Assistant Sec. of State  
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that a colored American citizen named John Stepnay, a native of Maine, was tried at the United States Consular Court in Canton in December 1885, on charges and complaints of the Master of a British Steamship named "Marian", and presented to this Consulate through Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at this port. The particulars of the case, and the result of trial, are as follow.

V

The British Steamship *Marce*  
 William Mitchell, Master; left London,  
 England, about the first of July A.D. 1885;  
 and is engaged in the Chinese coasting  
 trade; with a mixed crew of Europeans,  
 Americans, and Asiatics; and when coming  
 up the Canton or Pearl River, and nearing Whampoa,  
 which is a part of, and the anchorage for sea-  
 going vessels near, Canton port, (although  
 about a dozen miles below this City)  
 a serious disturbance occurred; caused  
 by a quarrel between John Stepan,  
 and Chinese member of the crew,  
 about ownership of a fowl, alleged  
 to have been stolen from one another;  
 and resulting in a general fight,  
 with knives, brass-buckles, earthen  
 work-basins, fists, et cetera, and  
 the apparent probability of the death of a Chinaman  
 who suffered severely in the head by John Stepan.

In the melee, John Stepney would have been killed by a blow from a coal shovel in the hands of a Chinaman, but for the timely rescue of a colored man named Alfred E. Toan, a British subject, who intercepted the blow, and was to Stepney's relief.

The Master of the *Marina* seized upon the opportunity to try to get rid of a couple of sailors who were getting Four Pounds, Sterling, per month, whose places he could fill with drabs at one third of the wages he was paying to Stepney and Toan; and, accordingly, lodged complaint in the British Consulate against Toan; who was slightly fined, but discharged.

From the evidence of the Captain, First Mate, Engineer, Carpenter, Firemen, and other members of the *Marina's* crew, in the British Consular Court, and in the United States Consular Court, it did not appear that either of the accused colored men were vicious or turbulent; or that the disturbance was premeditated. It was a sudden and desperate conflict.

In the excitement of the occasion,  
 John Stepney had ungaurdedly made  
 rude reply to the Master; and that  
 circumstance, together with the  
 uncertainty regarding the effects of the  
 wounds inflicted upon one of the Chinese  
 sailors, who was in danger of losing his  
 life from wounds received at the hands  
 of John Stepney, led to the arrest of  
 Stepney by the British Constables;  
 and his discharge from the "Marie";  
 and his imprisonment in the British  
 jails at Whampoa and Canton; until  
 the injured Chinaman recovered from  
 his injuries sufficiently to appear  
 in the United States Consular Court;  
 when by payment by Stepney of  
 twenty dollars to defray expenses of two  
 Doctors, and also by payment of  
 ten dollars by Stepney to the injured  
 Chinaman, matters were adjusted to  
 the satisfaction of all concerned;  
 whereupon John Stepney was  
 released from custody, and departed  
 to Hong Kong in pursuit of employment.

As there is no jail attached to this Consulate, it became necessary to use the British jails, both at Whampoa and Canton.

And as there is no Marshal or Constable connected with this Consulate, it became necessary to employ our former Constable, Charles Limberg, (who is Chief of Police, on Shamshu, for the protection of the foreign community) to take Stepany in custody.

Enclosed I have the honor to hand you statement of expenses incurred in the trial of John Stepany, with vouchers in duplicate, amounting to the sum of Seventy Four and  $\frac{54}{100}$  Dollars; for which sum please honor my Draft through Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, numbered 65, and dated this 25th day of January, A.D. 1886.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour,  
U.S. Consul.

one inclosure  
viz  
Account & Vouchers  
in one clasp.

Acting Judicially.



*Order  
Mar. 27/86*

*No. 95*



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*January 25<sup>th</sup> 1886*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. James D. Porter,  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Blank Drafts, and W. Flags.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Requesting blank drafts,  
one medium sized flag,  
three small flags.*

No. 95.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 25<sup>th</sup> 1886.

M<sup>r</sup>. James D. Foster.

Assistant Sec<sup>y</sup> of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that this Consulate may be supplied with engraved blanks for Drafts; and also one medium sized U.S. Flag; and three small U.S. Flags suitable for rough weather. At this port the absence of a National Flag from the Consular Staff is not desirable; but, on the contrary, the Consulate must fly the National Flag, to maintain proper relations with natives and foreigners. I am, Sir,

Yours obedient servant -

Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul

*ackd in 8 days  
J. D. P.  
ac mar 3/86*  
*Very interesting H. H. Clair*  
*No. 90*  
*March 3/86*  
United States Consulate, Canton, China.  
*February 15<sup>th</sup> 1886*

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. James D. Porter,  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

*Ocean Freights, and Boycotting  
by Steamship Monopolies.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Unprecedented Condition of Freight  
interests; and its effects.*

*Transportation as an item  
of discrimination in Commerce.*

*Boycotting by Ocean Monopolies.  
Fleets of Sailing Ships idle.*

*Copied. April. 1886).*

7.



No. 9

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

February 15<sup>th</sup> 1880

Mr. James D. Porter  
Assistant Secy of State  
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to lay  
before you some important and significant  
facts in regard to Ocean Commerce  
Transportation, between the Eastern  
Coast of Asia and Atlantic Ports  
of Europe and America, is taking,  
or has assumed, features, which  
practically tend to destroy the interests  
of American and European Sailing  
Ships, or their owners; and also place  
circumstances upon American Export trade,  
through discriminations in Ocean freights.

Notwithstanding the fact may not be generally known in America or in Europe, several of the large Steamship Companies, whose powerful fleets are monopolizing the benefits, or have monopolized the benefits, of the carrying-trade between Europe and Eastern Asia, as well as between Europe and Australia, byzant all rivals in transportation, by adopting a system of re-bates or discounts from the established up-set rates of freight, amounting to a return, at the end of the year, of about £1.0.0 <sup>or 1/500</sup> per ~~ton~~ <sup>ton</sup> of the total freight account for the year; provided the patrons of the combination of these Steam-ship Monopolies faithfully abstain from making shipments by ships that are not embraced in the Combined Ocean Monopoly designated "Conference Steamers".

5

By this one simple process of  
 pressure, the great bulk of the most  
 desirable freighting business of the East  
 is put out of the reach of competition or  
 competitors; and thus the Commerce  
 of Asia and Australia is largely under  
 the control of less than half a dozen very  
 powerful and opulent steam ship companies,  
 whose shares cannot be bought in the market.

Few merchants in Asia, while  
 engaged in buying and selling merchandise,  
 can afford to resist the demands of such a  
 transportation monopoly; and all feel  
 safer under this bondage, than when  
 attempting resistance that can be of no avail.

Nothing of the kind is known as applying  
 to shipments from Europe to Asia; as any  
 such attempt to control shipments would  
 invite and allure formidable resistance and  
 competition among Capitalists.

But the result of the combination  
 which controls shipments from Asia  
 is seen in the fleets of idle ships  
 in Asiatic ports; which came to Asia  
 with Cargoes, and are unable to get return Cargoes.

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The only possible rivals of this Ocean Steamship Combination referred to, are the iron steamships built expressly for carrying large cargoes, with small consumption of fuel; and operated by owners of sufficient wealth and influence to control cargoes both ways; and when a fleet of such ships could demonstrate sufficient strength to achieve success, the same is invited into the Combination, and forms part and parcel of what is known as, the "Conference Steamers", now numbering a few large fleets with an aggregate of about two hundred steamships, having a capacity of 500,000 tons; and representing a capital of over \$60,000,000. (Sixty Millions of Dollars)

Sailing vessels are being hard pressed by competition with steamships; and if American Commerce is to be carried extensively into remote countries and distant seas, steamships must be employed; as the increased rate of insurance on cargoes, and loss of time in transit, by sailing vessels, favor shipments by steamers; except for some bulky and cheap commodities, such as matting, palm leaf fans, rattan-ware, China-ware, fire-crackers, &c.

A practical illustration of the operation of transportation business under existing combination of the large Steamship Companies, can be supplied in the steady rate of freight, for all ships contracted within the "Conference", of £ 3. 2. 6 Sterling, = about \$17.62<sup>gold</sup> per ton of 40 Cubic feet, from Hong Kong to London. During the year, or years, while Steamships, outside of the Combination or "Conference", and sailing ships, may be compelled to lay idle for a long time in an Eastern port, or engage in some unprofitable and humiliating coastwise traffic, before finding a cargo at any price for an Atlantic port.

Today, while planning over the list of Steamships and sailing vessels reported two days ago in the port of Hong Kong, I found there were 48<sup>(foreign)</sup> Steamships, and 54 foreign sailing vessels. By "foreign" is meant European & American. Only two of the 48 Steamships were American. One of the American Steamers left port that day, under the auspices of the Pacific Mail Company, for San Francisco. The other American Steamer may wait in port weeks or months for a cargo; although Steamships get away earlier than sailing ships.

Of the 54 sailing ships idle in that Port (Hong Kong), 27 were American, only one of which was advertised to load. Some of these ships have been idle for four or five months. Many of them brought cargoes of Irish or Australian coal, and all fail to get remunerative homeward or other freights. In most cases their Masters are owners or part-owners of the ships.

On the second of January, 1886, the "South American" sailed from Hong Kong for New York with a Canton cargo of about three thousand tons, after having remained in port since September 18<sup>th</sup> 1885; and advertising in the Daily Press, and other journals, as the "Fast and Favorite American Clipper Ship" - "For New York" - "Rate of Freight Fifteen Shillings per Ton of 40 Cubic feet," from the 6<sup>th</sup> November 1885 to January 2<sup>nd</sup> 1886.

She was one of the finest ships that had been in port for years; but was unable to break through the barriers of the steamship combinations, and other adverse influences, except by carrying freight on 15,000 miles at \$3.75 per ton of 40 Cubic feet.

Sailing vessels can be found to take cargo from Hong Kong to San Francisco for \$2.50 per ton of 40 Cubic feet.

The price quoted for freight from Hong Kong to London is 25 shillings etc "per ton of 50 Cubic feet"; but recently one of the Steamship Companies in the "Conference" or Combination Monopoly has commenced to take ordinary or general cargo from Hong Kong to New York, all the way by steam, via Suez Canal, with transshipment at London, for thirty shillings sterling per ton of 40 Cubic feet, which will be a severe blow to independent or non-Conference steamers sailing direct from Hong Kong, via Suez Canal, to New York, in which the freight has usually been from 50s. to 60s. = \$12.50 to \$15.00.

This cut into steam-freight from Hong Kong to New York via London, at 30s. = about \$7.50 per ton, which is much less than or freight to London, cannot fail to seriously affect also the traffic overland traffic between San Francisco and New York, besides causing considerable dissatisfaction among shippers from China to London; as now, the

case in regard to a similar treatment of freight from China to Hamburg by the British "Conference Steamers" monopoly, to prevent the establishment of a German line of steamers in the China trade.

In the financial and commercial items of the London Times of December 2<sup>nd</sup> 1885, attention was called to the practice, which so constantly prevails in China, of British steamers charging less freight to the Continent and to New York than to London; and the following figures were vouched for in the case of a vessel which has lately left Shanghai: 30 shillings to New York; 60 shillings to London.

The London Times of December 31<sup>st</sup> 1885, and the London and China Express of January 1<sup>st</sup> 1886 published a communication showing that "owing to the establishment of a new German line of steamships, the 'Conference Steamers' have been charging £1.12.6 (= about \$8.12) per ton of 40 Cubic feet from China to Hamburg <sup>via London</sup>, while the same steamers would not accept less than £3.0.0 (= about \$15.00) per ton of 40 Cubic feet to London.

The steamers between Hamburg and London charge 7 shillings and 6 pence per ton, including forwarding Commission.



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The London Times of January 2nd 1886 published the following items in regard to freights from China, in which its correspondent said "British interests in the China trade are being prejudiced by the action of the so-called Conference line of steamers";

The following is an instance -

"The manifest of the steamship 'Glenogle', just arrived from Shanghai, would show the following rates of freight for tea. From Shanghai to London £2.17.6 (= about \$14.37) per ton; and from Shanghai to New York, £1.10.0 (= about \$7.50) per ton (of 40 cubic feet). In the latter case the teas have to be transhipped in London at a cost to the Company of about 15 shillings per ton; and yet, on application being made to land in London certain teas originally intended for New York, no lower rate of freight than £2.17.6 (= about \$14.37) would be accepted."

The Times' correspondent asserts, with some apparent reason, that the powerful Companies forming the "Conference" in China are thus taking steps to alienate an important trade from English into German and American hands.

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Although this discrimination in freight seems to favor shipments from China to New York; yet these benefits may be counteracted by injuries thus inflicted upon American carriers on land and sea, and seriously affect American Export trade, by preventing sailing ships and non-Conference Steamships from taking freight to Asia, where they are prevented by the "Conference" combinations from getting return freight.

It will be found that a Steamship from Asiatic ports to Atlantic ports in the United States of America seldom returns direct from an American port to Asia; but almost invariably returns to England, and thence to Asia, with British cargo.

In the absence of cargoes offering at American Atlantic ports for ships and steamers direct to Asiatic ports, Exports from the United States reach Asia by <sup>American</sup> overland transportation and Steamships on the Pacific, at a cost or rate of freight which is ordinarily quoted at forty dollars per ton between New York and Hong Kong.

Occasional Cargoes of petroleum by sailing ships are exceptions, in regard to freight from American Atlantic ports to Asia.

Furthermore, by reference to London quotations of freight-rate, it will be seen that the "Conference" Steamship Monopoly ask only 30 shillings (£7.50) to 35 shillings (£8.75) per ton<sup>weight</sup> for general Cargo, or 30 to 40 shillings (£7.50 to £10.00) per ton measurement, from London to Yokohama; via Peking Canal; and only 27 shillings and sixpence (£6.87) per ton weight, or 20 to 40 shillings (£5.00 to £10.00) measurement, from London to Hong Kong or Shanghai.

Those were the quotations in the London and China Express of January 8<sup>th</sup> 1886, and the "non-Conference Steamships" could not go under those rates; with the certainty of finding it difficult to get return cargo, except by "pickings" at the various ports on the Eastern Coast of Asia, involving much expense & loss of time.

Thus it will be seen that the great "Conference" Steamship Monopoly has become master of the situation in regard to the carrying trade.

During the year 1885 the "Pacific Mail" Steamships were withdrawn from the "Australian trade"; and already four of the eight Steamships, running between China and America via Japan, are British Steamships, somewhat identified with the "White Star" line, but operated under the auspice of the American Pacific Railway Companies. There are significant facts.

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The freight on Raw Silk, from China to New York, via San Francisco, is 8 cents per pound, gross weight, baled; which is equivalent to about  $8\frac{1}{2}$  cents per pound of silk.

The freight on Raw Silk, from China to London or Harveilles, is  $\$5.00$  Mexican per bale of about 107 lbs silk - say 112 lbs gross; per either of the two Mail Lines of Steamers - the strongest members of the "Conference". If the same tactics or methods are applied to silk freights as are now applied to teas and general cargo, in regard to discriminating rates for transportation, it will require vigilance to retain that commodity as one of the profitable items of freight for American ships and railways.

As an indication of the relative supremacy of British Ships and Commerce in the East, it is only necessary to note the fact that over eighty per cent of the revenues of the Suez Canal is derived from British sources.

And it appears from the Chinese Maritime Customs Trade Reports and Returns that of the annual tonnage of vessels entered and cleared at Chinese ports, amounting to about 14,000,000 tons in 1879; 16,000,000 tons in 1880; 16,640,000 tons in 1881; 17,500,000 tons in 1882; the same in 1883; and

19,000,000 tons in 1884; British shipping has steadily increased from about 8,000,000 tons in 1879, to over 12,000,000 tons in 1884; or more than half of the total tonnage; of which total about  $\frac{1}{4}$ <sup>th</sup> is classed as Chinese; and the remaining  $\frac{3}{4}$ <sup>th</sup> made up of other nationalities, chiefly European, Japanese, American, and French, <sup>American</sup> relatively, in the order named.

Believing that these items in regard to transportation and Commerce in the East may be interesting and useful to thoughtful business men who are identified with the commercial interests of America and the World, I respectfully submit them to your consideration.

Yours, Sir,

Your obedient servant

Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul

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done  
Apr 27/86*

U. S. STATE  
APR 26 1886  
RECEIVED

No. 97

*A. H. Clair*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*March 7<sup>th</sup> 1886*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. James D. Porter,  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*The alleged Anti-Chinese events in  
America; and treatment of the  
question in Canton.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Transmitting details and  
correspondence regarding  
Chinese troubles in America,  
and foreigners in China.*

No. 97

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

March 7<sup>th</sup> 1888

Mr. James D. Porter.

Sec. Sec. of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you, that, since Sunday afternoon, 21<sup>st</sup> February, the subject that has most occupied the attention of Chinese officials, merchants, literary people, and gentry; as well as the attention of foreigners; and especially of natives and foreign residents in Canton; is the anti-Chinese campaign in the western part of the United States of America; respecting which, telegrams were sent from San Francisco to Hong Kong and Canton, and also to Peking, on 21<sup>st</sup> ult.

A copy of the telegram, from the Chinese Guild or Club, and Chinese Consul General, in San Francisco, to the Chinese Hospital Committee in Hong Kong, to the Harmonic Society in Canton, and to His Excellency, the Viceroy of the Two Guang, is inclosed and marked A.

1  
A

A similar telegram was also received from the Chinese Merchants Club in San Francisco by the Chinese Hospital Club in Hong Kong.

Fortunately it came to my knowledge Monday morning<sup>22<sup>nd</sup></sup>, that the high Chinese Officials, and prominent Chinese Merchants, in Canton, had tidings of a serious nature, from San Francisco; but the news did not get into general circulation here, until Hong Kong newspapers arrived Tuesday afternoon 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb'y.



The thirty hours preceding the arrival of the English and Chinese newspapers, with telegraphic advice from Peking in the morning, were most diligently improved and employed by the foreign consuls and Chinese authorities, in guarding against placards, agitation, tumult, or clamor, in the form of indignation or rage.

It is very gratifying to be able to report that His Excellency, "Chang Chih-tung", the Viceroy, adopting vigorous and effective measures to keep down any demonstration of ill-feeling among the populace, did well.

In this emergency, his well known and proverbial antipathy to foreigners was put aside; and he certainly maintained tranquility, and secured the co-operation, not only of all forces subject to his command; but also of the influential and leading business men in all parts of Canton, who were enjoined to discourage agitation in reference to a matter which should receive the best attention of those in authority.

It may be proper to place in the hands of the Department copies of the correspondence that passed between the Consuls and the Chinese authorities on this subject.

Before opening correspondence with the Chinese officials, it was necessary to get the business before the Council; and as the only foreign war-vessel at Canton was Her Britannic Majesty's *H.M. "Midge"*, which was then getting up steam, to leave Canton for Hong Kong, under orders from the British Commodore, measures had to be promptly adopted to detain that ship in port pending other proceedings.

This was effected by a personal visit from the British and United States Consuls, accompanied by the Commissioner of Customs, to Commander Rothman, on the *H.M. "Midge"*, immediately after placing in the British Consul's hands a note, of which a copy is inclosed and marked -  $\frac{2}{B}$

Semi-official dispatches were then sent to His Excellency the Viceroy, as per inclosed copy of my dispatch marked -  $\frac{1}{C}$

They were not identic dispatches; but similar; and from the British and U.S. Consuls only.

2

The reply of His Excellency, the Viceroy, to the British Consul, as per Copy inclosed marked  $\frac{4}{D}$ , and the Viceroy's reply to the U.S. Consul, as per Copy inclosed marked  $\frac{5}{E}$ , are interesting documents (translation).

Upon the arrival of the Hong-Kong papers, with the San Francisco Chinese telegrams, in Canton, the British, German, French, and United States Consuls, sent to His Excellency, the Viceroy, nearly identical dispatches, to remind him of the necessity of observing the utmost diligence to keep down excitement and agitation, and guard against tumult and outrage.

A copy of my dispatch of the 23<sup>d</sup> February to His Excellency, the Viceroy is inclosed marked  $\frac{6}{F}$ ; and a copy of his reply is also inclosed (translation) marked  $\frac{7}{G}$ .

That is also an interesting document. My reply thereto is inclosed and marked  $\frac{8}{H}$ .

The work from Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February, then closed, with the correspondence copied as incident, quietly and peacefully, and sent to the United States Minister at Peking through the Consul General at Shanghai full particulars of occurrences, with copies of correspondence.

On Sunday February 28<sup>th</sup> Admiral Davis telegraphed from Yokohama to the U.S. Consul, Canton.

"What necessity if any for ship to protect Americans at Canton? What foreign ships of War there?"

After consultation with Mr. Birmingham, Manager at Canton for the American firm of Messrs. Russell & Company, I telegraphed the same afternoon to Admiral Davis —

"Chinese 'Times' telegrams caused 'deep sensation'. Home news will 'affect Canton. You can decide.' 'Quiet now, Future uncertain.' 'Rulers Watchful. Midge detained here Consuls' request.'"

The Admiral replied —

"Marion ordered to Canton".

Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, brought out  
(new) developments, through the recently chosen  
Chinese Minister to the United States,  
"Chang Shou Wan", (a native of Hsu  
Shan, about 12 miles from Canton), who,  
with one of his Interpreters, (formerly  
one of the Chinese students in the United  
States, and chairman of the Interpreters  
of this Consulate), named Liang Sing,  
passed an hour with me on a promised  
call or visit.

Minister "Chang" is regarded as a  
good sort of a Chinaman - amiable,  
calm, and not overloaded with pie-crust.  
He is not eminent as a scholar;  
and has had little experience of or in  
the administration of public affairs;  
except such as he has derived from  
routine duties in the Foreign Office  
at Peking. Consequently he has  
very little personal intercourse with  
foreigners. Still, he is evidently  
a man of good sense, strict  
morals of the Chinese stamp, and  
evidently disposed to be fair and reasonable.

57

He expressed, in a former interview I had with him at the "Gazette" where he resided, a strong desire to learn many particulars about the United States; and in the interview of Monday 1<sup>st</sup> instant at this consulate we went over considerable variety of topics, touching climatic features, local peculiarities, structure of our government &c, distributed profits and manifest checks, emigration or immigration, alleged anti-Chinese occurrences, &c.

The point that was disclosed in that interview of greatest interest to me was the fact that much against his wishes, he had been detained in Canton over two steamers; and that instead of going per S.S. "Oceanic", February 23<sup>rd</sup>, to San Francisco; he had been compelled to wait until the S.S. "Gallea" goes, 13<sup>th</sup> March; on account of the telegraphic news of anti-Chinese troubles, and the Viceroy's course in reference thereto.

9

It became evident that the Minister was not pleased by the Viceroy's action, which, I infer, encroached upon the Minister's prerogatives, and transcended the legitimate duties and functions of the Viceroy; who, I believe, had detained the Minister, under the expectation that the Viceroy's requests for telegrams to be sent by the British and American Governments, (as set forth in inclosed dispatches from the Viceroy marked  $\frac{4}{D}$ ,  $\frac{5}{E}$ , &  $\frac{7}{G}$ ;) would elicit action and responses from the British and American Governments, which would enable the Viceroy to claim the credit of adjusting the Sino-Chinese difficulties.

By the light of the telegrams from London dated 4<sup>th</sup> March 1886, which appeared in all of the Hong Kong English and Chinese newspapers yesterday, and were extensively circulated in Canton, it seems the Viceroy of the Two Rivers telegraphed to the Chinese Legation in Washington that he entertained grave fears of reprisals unless Chinese claims for indemnity were allowed; and the same telegram stated the President would not entertain such claims.

The Canton telegram referred to reads -  
 "In consequence of the organization  
 "agitation against the Chinese, the Chinese  
 "Government has demanded an indemnity  
 "for the outrages committed upon this  
 "people in the United States;  
 "President Cleveland has refused to  
 "entertain the demand; and the  
 "Viceroy of Canton has telegraphed to  
 "the Chinese Minister at Washington  
 "pointing out that he entertains grave  
 "fears that if the demand is not complied  
 "with, the Chinese will threaten reprisals."

The British and American Consuls  
 did not deem it proper or prudent  
 to permit such information to obtain  
 circulation in Canton, without a  
 prompt and firm demand upon the  
 Viceroy, that he should recognize  
 his responsibility and duty; and that  
 he should take vigorous measures  
 to guard against any evil results  
 from the dissemination of such  
 a dangerous intimation as the  
 published telegram attributed to him.



Copy of my dispatch of  
last evening (March 6<sup>th</sup>) to  
the Viceroy, the Viceroy is  
almost and marked 9.

At the same time I telegraphed to  
the ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> General, Shanghai -  
"Excitement increasing over American  
"Chinese events. All Hong Kong newspapers"  
"today publish telegrams and editorials"  
"about President having refused entertain"  
"indemnity claims; and Viceroy's telegram"  
"to Chinese Legation, Washington, intimating"  
"danger reprisals unless indemnity claims"  
"allowed. Inform Legation."

The British also telegraphed  
to British Legation, Peking.

Acting Consul General Smithers  
telegraphed last evening to me -  
"Have asked Admiral to re-inforce"  
"Marion with Alert".

Admiral Davis telegraphed me this  
morning from Yokohama.  
Marion near Report affairs - Alert ordered

The U.S. "Marion" arrived at Whampoa,  
12 miles New Canton this afternoon -  
draws 17½ feet water - only 12 feet water in river.  
H.B. M. Midge remains at Canton yet.

12

The "M. S. S. S. S." is situated between  
Swam and the Philippine Islands;  
and draws between 14 and 15 feet water.

I beg your attention to the fact  
that during the interview between the  
Chinese Minister "Chang Yin Wan"  
(E. E. & W. to the U. S.) and myself at this  
Consulate a 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant I pointed out to  
him distinctly and clearly the numerous  
cases (20 to 30 British & American brides, many  
French cases, and others of native Christians)  
of property of foreigners, such as Churches,  
Millings, &c. that had been demolished, injured,  
or looted by Chinese mobs in this his native  
Province of Kwang Tung, mostly in September  
1884 (one year after the Siam riot),  
and all in the country places; and that  
up to the present time this Viceroy (whose  
ill-advised proclamation of August  
1884 had caused the outbreak of wrath  
against foreigners and native Christians)  
had never yet adjusted, or settled, or  
even recognized or admitted any liability  
for, or any intention to make redress,  
restitution, or indemnity, for property thus destroyed.

I informed the Minister (Chang Hui Wan) that although I sincerely and studiously aimed to maintain propriety, decorum, and politeness, in my official correspondence with the Viceroy, it had been my duty to report the fact that he persistently evaded the settlement of any claims for indemnity, however just; and by declining to answer dispatches, and avoiding personal interviews with foreign consuls, he pursued a course of policy that might be regarded as obnoxious, amounting almost to non-intercourse; while in some respects his action did not accord with the stipulations, the spirit, a object of Treaty of Treaty between China and foreign governments.

I cited a case of a deserter from the Mss. "Alert" in port of Canton, and several consular requests that the deserter might be arrested, as his whereabouts were indicated in my applications for the deserter's arrest. The deserter was known on the "Alert" as "Benjamin Taylor", Hesperian, & had been seen since in China and Japan.

Y

This same Draxton, after having been employed for several months in the torpedo service on Canton river in 1884, was last year employed as an official in the Chinese revenue service, for securing the "ekin-top" levied a opium, and to detect opium smugglers. He finally fled to Singapore, upon hearing that the M. Consul was determined to secure his arrest.

I assured the Minister "Shang Yin Wan" that he would be very likely to be reminded in Washington of the Viceroy's manner of Treaty observance, in connection with his demand for the punishment of persons accused of bad treatment toward the Chinese.

The M. Minister at Peking has been fully informed by me in regard to these matters.

Keeping my action will have the approval of the Department of State; and assuring you that I will try to keep our flag in honor in this, as in past emergencies;

I am Sir,

Your obedient servant

Charles Seymour  
M. Consul

one inclosure  
viz: 9 Copies clasped.

*Copies of Documents  
mentioned in Dispatch No. 97*

*and numbers*

*1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9  
A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I.*

9  
I

(Copy)

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

March 8<sup>th</sup> 1880

To His Excellency,

"Chang,"

Viceroy of the Two Luangs.

Canton.

Sir:

The American Consul has the honor  
bring to Your Excellency's attention the fact, that, in all of the  
leading newspapers of today, there appears a telegram  
the effect that Your Excellency has expressed an telegram  
the Chinese Legation at Washington, the Capital of the  
United States of America, grave fears of reprisals  
Chinese, for alleged outrages against the Chinese,  
less claims for indemnity are allowed.

The American Consul has the impression that  
news of that nature or character are usually presented  
considered with careful deliberation, based on accurate  
information as to actual facts; and ~~that~~ it is believed  
that the trouble, alleged to have occurred, will be  
stated in the usual manner, when carefully  
tailed in diplomatic correspondence between  
two friendly Governments of China and the United States  
America.

The American Consul respectfully  
expresses to Your Excellency, that it  
to be deeply regretted an impression

should become prevalent that the high and distinguished official, who is invested with the responsibility, duty, and power, of maintaining order, tranquility, and security, in Kwangtung, entertains and expresses grave fears about his ability to maintain authority over natives, and security to foreigners, in any possible event; especially in view of the fact that numerous outrages by Chinese mobs, in the Revolution, destruction and looting of the property of peaceful foreigners, American citizens and others, in Kwangtung Province, in September 1884, have now been adjusted, or even recognized by His Excellency in settlement of just claims for indemnity, although Consuls have respectfully and frequently requested such claims might receive His Excellency's attention.

The American Consul, in the meantime, hopes and believes His Excellency will successfully guard against serious consequences resulting from the publications of the telegram herein mentioned.

With renewed assurances of highest esteem, the American Consul sends Compliments and Care.

Charles Seymour  
Consul of the United States of America

1  
A

Copy of  
The Chinese Telegrams  
from  
San Francisco to Hong Kong, Canton, Peking.

At Hong Kong, on Sunday 4.30 P.M., February 21<sup>st</sup> 1886, the Tung Wah Hospital Committee, received from the Chinese Guild or Club, and from the Chinese Consul General, in San Francisco, the following telegram.

"We respectfully call your attention to the condition of the Chinese in the United States of America.

Anti-Chinese riots of frequent occurrence by the Irish.  
Our property already destroyed over \$500,000.  
Merchants business seriously injured.

Great suffering and destitution among the laboring classes.  
We request that you immediately issue proclamation warning our people not to let any Chinese come to the United States.

Also send a copy of this to "Chang Chih-tung", Viceroy, and to the "Ci Yuk Tong (Humane Society)", Canton.

We have cabled to the "Tung-li Yamen (Foreign Office, Peking)"  
The above was published in English and Chinese Hong Kong papers, and proclaimed publicly in Canton by the Humane Society Street Bulletin.  
Another telegram to similar effect was received from the "Ming Yang" Club at San Francisco by the "Wing Chang Kuit (American Importers)",  
'Hong Kong, Sunday evening'.



(Copy)

2  
B.

W. H. McCombs, Canton, China  
February 27<sup>th</sup> 1886

H. Foster Esquire

H. B. McCombs,  
Canton

Sir:

It has come to my knowledge, through several reliable sources, that a rumor is prevalent among the Cantonese that large numbers (thousands) of Chinese have been massacred in San Francisco.

Adding the prevalence of such excitement as a report of that nature produces, I respectfully submit the present is an unfortunate time for the departure of H. B. McCombs "Hedge". In this opinion I believe the entire foreign community will concur.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour  
McCombs

Copy 3  
C

Consulate of the United States of America.

Canton, February 22<sup>nd</sup> 1896.

To His Excellency "Chang"

Governor General of the Two Guangs, Canton.

Sir:

The American Consul has the honor to inform Your Excellency that a rumor of a most deplorable nature is in circulation among Cantonese, to the effect that serious outrages have occurred in San Francisco, or some other portion of the Pacific Ocean coast of the United States of America, resulting in the destruction by fire of the dwelling places of Chinese residents, and the slaughter or massacre of many thousands of Chinese.

The American Consul has received no information of this lamentable nature; and has hoped that the firm and judicious Proclamation and efforts of the able President of the American Republic would prevent the occurrence of any such outrages; as he ordered that the entire power and resources of the American Government should be used to prevent threatened injustice by mobs of lawless people.

Without knowing whether the excitement produced by the prevalence of such a rumor in Canton may cause turbulence and disorder, the American Consul respectfully requests Your Excellency to adopt such prudential measures as may be deemed wise and effective to prevent any mischief in

in Canton; as any grievances on either side should and doubtless will be fairly and honorably adjusted by the governments of two friendly nations of China and the United States of America. Mischievous placards should be prevented from circulation if they exist.

The American Consul will be thankful for an immediately reply with assurances that this business shall have Your Excellency's careful and prompt attention; and with renewed expressions of highest esteem, sends compliments and cord.

(signed) Charles Seymour,  
Consul of the United States of America.

4  
D

A semi-official reply from His Excellency "Chang," Governor General of the Two Guangs, to H.B. Mr Consul A. Frater, Cognac, in regard to anti-Chinese riots in San Francisco.

Translation.

I have to reply to your favor recently received, of which I have had an immediate perusal. A foreign telegram was received yesterday concerning the massacre of the Chinese subjects in San Francisco, United States of America, which rendered me truly anxious about the wrath of the subjects. I the Viceroy have already given secret instructions to guard against it and to show the right way to the people. But an affair of this nature cannot be prohibited from being circulated. Take it all in all, if it is managed fairly, there would naturally be no occasion for disturbance. It is certainly known that merchants from your Honored Country residing in that city are not said to be few; so it is earnestly hoped that telegram might be promptly forwarded to the Minister of your Honored Country in the Capitol, to adopt effective measures in stringently suppressing and restraining them from joining in or participating in the outrages.

With compliments and card.

(Received February 22<sup>nd</sup> 1886)

5- 5- 7-  
21 8 8

A semi-official reply from His Excellency "Chang" Governor  
General of the Two Guangs to Honorable Charles Seymour, U. S.  
Consul, Canton, in regard to anti-Chinese riots in San Francisco.

Translation.

I have to reply to your favor recently received accompanied  
by a foreign communication, of both of which, I have had a  
full perusal. In regard to this affair, I have received a  
telegram from a foreign port of an utmost turbulent nature,  
and have heard that the Chinese subjects in San Francisco  
had already telegraphed to the Kung-li-yamen about it;  
for the management of which, the Imperial Throne will  
devise its plan. Hitherto, your Honored Nation and China  
have been in friendly relation, and also your Honored Nation  
has managed business with the utmost friendliness and equity.  
I really cannot understand why this event has occurred.  
I the Viceroy have already exerted my utmost capability in  
showing the right way to the people and suppressing any  
riots. But, in the first place, the Chinese in San Francisco  
must be brought to the stage of living in peace and of being  
exempted from anxiety, then the Cantonese will naturally  
by degrees disperse their wrath. Mutual protection on  
either side is of the same fundamental principle, therefore  
I respectfully request that telegram will be promptly  
sent to the Minister of Your Honored Country to send  
a telegraphic message to the Department of Foreign Affairs  
ordering

ordering the merchants of San Francisco by telegraph  
not to again seek any occasion for savage onslaughts,  
and making it a point to severely punish the rioters  
in accordance to the doctrine of equity and friendship.  
Mutual tranquility will naturally prevail. Hoping this  
matter would not be delayed as it is of the greatest importance.  
With compliments and card.

(Received February 23<sup>rd</sup> 1886.)

Form 159.

Quarterly transcript of the Record of Notarial services at the Consulate Canton, during  
the quarter ended the 30<sup>th</sup> day of September 1887.

No.	DATE.	TO WHOM THE SERVICE WAS RENDERED.	NATURE OF THE SERVICE.	AMOUNT OF FEE OR COMPENSATION.	REMARKS.
				\$	Cts.
311	July 1	Thomas Rowe & Smith	Copy of Consular Invoice	2	00
312	" "	" " "	" "	2	00
313	" "	" " "	" "	2	00
314	" "	" " "	" "	2	00
315	" "	" " "	" "	2	00
316	" "	Russell & Co.	" "	2	00
321	" 2	H. Dent & Co.	" "	2	00
322	" 8	" " "	" "	2	00
327	" 10	Russell & Co.	" "	2	00
328	" "	" " "	" "	2	00
330	" 11	Thomas Rowe & Smith	" "	2	00
331	" "	" " "	" "	2	00
332	" "	" " "	" "	2	00
333	" "	" " "	" "	2	00
337	" 14	Pustan & Co.	" "	2	00
338	" 16	H. Dent & Co.	" "	2	00
348	" 21	Carlowitz & Co.	" "	2	00
351	" "	" " "	" "	2	00
352	" "	Russell & Co.	" "	2	00
353	" "	" " "	" "	2	00
359	" "	" " "	" "	2	00
361	" "	Thomas Rowe & Smith	" "	2	00
362	" "	" " "	" "	2	00
363	" "	" " "	" "	2	00
364	" "	" " "	" "	2	00
365	" "	" " "	" "	2	00
366	" "	" " "	" "	2	00
367	" "	" " "	" "	2	00
377	" 28	H. Dent & Co.	" "	2	00
378	Aug 4	" " "	" "	2	00
379	" "	Pustan & Co.	" "	2	00
380	" 5	Russell & Co.	" "	2	00
381	" 5	" " "	" "	2	00
384	" 6	Carlowitz & Co.	" "	2	00
385	" "	" " "	" "	2	00
Grand Total				\$	70.00

I certify that the foregoing Record of Notarial services is a full and correct transcript of the Record of this Consulate,  
and that the same contains a true and accurate statement of all the Fees received at this Consulate for such services during the  
period named.

U. S. CONSUL.

## Form 159.

Quarterly transcript of the Record of Notarial services at the Consulate Canton, during  
the quarter ended the *30<sup>th</sup>* day of *September* 188*4*.

No.	DATE	TO WHOM THE SERVICE WAS RENDERED.	NATURE OF THE SERVICE.	AMOUNT OF FEE OR COMPENSATION.		REMARKS.
				\$	Cts.	
	<i>1884</i>					
			<i>Brought Forward</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>387</i>	<i>Aug 6</i>	<i>Carlowitz &amp; Co</i>	<i>Copy of Consular Invoice</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>389</i>	" "	<i>Russell &amp; Co</i>	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>390</i>	" "	"	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>391</i>	" "	<i>Thomas Rowe &amp; Smith</i>	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>392</i>	" "	"	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>393</i>	" "	"	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>394</i>	" "	"	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>395</i>	" <i>6</i>	"	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>396</i>	" "	"	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>398</i>	" <i>7</i>	<i>Pustan &amp; Co.</i>	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>403</i>	" <i>13</i>	"	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>415</i>	" <i>18</i>	<i>Carlowitz &amp; Co.</i>	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>420</i>	" <i>20</i>	<i>Russell &amp; Co.</i>	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>421</i>	" "	"	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>423</i>	" "	<i>Carlowitz &amp; Co.</i>	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>424</i>	" "	"	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>425</i>	" "	<i>Russell &amp; Co.</i>	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>426</i>	" "	"	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>427</i>	" "	"	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>428</i>	" "	"	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>429</i>	" "	<i>H. Dent &amp; Co.</i>	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>432</i>	" <i>21</i>	<i>Thomas Rowe &amp; Smith</i>	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>433</i>	" "	"	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>434</i>	" "	"	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>440</i>	" <i>28</i>	<i>H. Dent &amp; Co.</i>	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>441</i>	" "	"	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>449</i>	" <i>30</i>	<i>Thomas Rowe &amp; Smith</i>	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>450</i>	" "	"	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>453</i>	<i>Sept. 2</i>	<i>Carlowitz &amp; Co.</i>	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>454</i>	" "	"	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>455</i>	" "	"	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>456</i>	" "	<i>Thomas Rowe &amp; Smith</i>	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>457</i>	" <i>3</i>	<i>Linthead &amp; Davis</i>	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>458</i>	" "	"	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>461</i>	" "	<i>Russell &amp; Co.</i>	"	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
			<i>Brought Forward</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>00</i>	

I certify that the foregoing Record of Notarial services is a full and correct transcript of the Record of this Consulate,  
and that the same contains a true and accurate statement of all the fees received at this Consulate for such services during the  
period named.

U. S. CONSUL.



Form 159.

Quarterly transcript of the Record of Notarial services at the Consulate Canton, during the quarter ended the *30<sup>th</sup>* day of *September* 188*7*.

No.	DATE.	TO WHOM THE SERVICE WAS RENDERED.	NATURE OF THE SERVICE.	AMOUNT OF FEE OR COMPENSATION.		REMARKS.
				\$	Cts	
	<i>1884</i>					
			<i>Brought Forward</i>	<i>\$</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>00</i>
<i>462</i>	<i>Sept 3</i>	<i>Russell &amp; Co.</i>	<i>Copy of Consular Invoice</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>463</i>	" "	" "	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>464</i>	" "	" "	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>465</i>	" "	" "	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>472</i>	" "	<i>Thomas Rowe &amp; Smith</i>	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>473</i>	" "	" "	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>474</i>	" "	" "	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>477</i>	" <i>4</i>	<i>Birley &amp; Co.</i>	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>485</i>	" <i>11</i>	<i>H. Dent &amp; Co.</i>	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>486</i>	" "	" "	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>488</i>	" <i>13</i>	<i>Birley &amp; Co.</i>	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>494</i>	" <i>15</i>	<i>H. Dent &amp; Co.</i>	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>495</i>	" "	" "	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>496</i>	" "	" "	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>497</i>	" "	" "	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>498</i>	" "	" "	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>499</i>	" "	<i>Linstead &amp; Davis</i>	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>500</i>	" "	" "	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>506</i>	" <i>16</i>	<i>Russell &amp; Co.</i>	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>509</i>	" "	" "	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>510</i>	" "	" "	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>511</i>	" "	" "	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>512</i>	" "	" "	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>513</i>	" "	<i>Orstan &amp; Co.</i>	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>517</i>	" "	<i>Barlowitz &amp; Co.</i>	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>518</i>	" "	" "	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>519</i>	" "	<i>Thomas Rowe &amp; Smith</i>	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>520</i>	" "	" "	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>521</i>	" "	" "	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>522</i>	" "	" "	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>523</i>	" "	" "	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>524</i>	" "	" "	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>536</i>	" <i>27</i>	<i>H. Dent &amp; Co.</i>	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>538</i>	" "	<i>Linstead &amp; Davis</i>	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
<i>539</i>	" "	<i>Russell &amp; Co.</i>	" "	<i>2</i>	<i>00</i>	
			<i>Brought Forward</i>	<i>\$</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>00</i>

I certify that the foregoing Record of Notarial services is a full and correct transcript of the Record of this Consulate, and that the same contains a true and accurate statement of all the Fees received at this Consulate for such services during the period named.

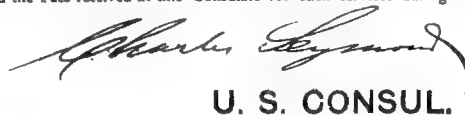
U. S. CONSUL.

## Form 159.

Quarterly transcript of the Record of Notarial services at the Consulate Canton, during  
the quarter ended the 30<sup>th</sup> day of September 1884.

No.	DATE.	TO WHOM THE SERVICE WAS RENDERED.	NATURE OF THE SERVICE.	AMOUNT OF FEE OR COMPENSATION.		REMARKS.
				\$	Cts.	
	188					
540	Sept 27	Russell & Co.	Copy of Consular Invoice	2	00	
548	" 29	Linshead & Davis	"	2	00	
549	" "	Thomas Rowland Smith	"	2	00	
550	" "	" " "	"	2	00	
551	" "	" " "	"	2	00	
552	" "	" " "	"	2	00	
553	" "	" " "	"	2	00	
554	" "	" " "	"	2	00	
555	" "	" " "	"	2	00	
557	" "	Carlomag & Co.	"	2	00	
558	" "	"	"	2	00	
Aug 25		Birley & Co.	Three sets of Quadrupliques, for Montevideo, South America, per ship, via London \$4.50 ea	\$232.00		
Aug 21		Birley & Co.				
Aug 18		Birley & Co.		13.50		
Total =				\$245.00		

I certify that the foregoing Record of Notarial services is a full and correct transcript of the Record of this Consulate,  
and that the same contains a true and accurate statement of all the Fees received at this Consulate for such services during the  
period named.

  
U. S. CONSUL.



842691-  
R 839 B.

No. 53

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*October 13-1884*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adee,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Account, with Vouchers, and  
Returns for quarter ending  
September 30-1884.*

SYNOPSIS.

No. 53

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

October 13 1894

~~Mr. [illegible]~~

Dear Mr. [illegible]

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to hand  
you herewith [illegible] with [illegible]  
and [illegible], for [illegible] sending  
[illegible] [illegible]

I am, Sir,

Very respectfully,

Charles F. [illegible]  
[illegible]

Enclosures viz:  
[illegible] in [illegible]  
[illegible] in [illegible]  
[illegible] of [illegible]  
[illegible] of [illegible]

Copy

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Consulate of the United States of America  
Canton, China, February 23<sup>rd</sup> 1886.

To His Excellency "Chang"

Governor-General of the Two Guangs, Canton.

Sir:

The American Consul has the honor to state that he has observed in one of the Hong Kong newspapers of yesterday date an announcement that a telegram that had been received on the 21<sup>st</sup> instant by a member of a committee of the "Sing Wah" Hospital, Hong Kong, from the Chinese guild in San Francisco stated, among other things, that anti-Chinese riots in America were of frequent occurrence, that Chinese property worth over \$500,000 had already been destroyed, and that many people had been killed.

The news may not be true, or it may be exaggerated. If it is true, there is no doubt but that the authorities of the United States of America will act with justice.

No American native citizen has been implicated thus far.

It is to be feared, however, that the telegram, after being made extensively known by means of the Chinese newspapers, will cause much excitement in the Kwang Tung Province, of which the most of the immigrants to San Francisco are natives, and that the excitement may generate animosity to foreigners living in Canton, and the country round about, or even attack on them.

The American consul, therefore, has the honor to request that His Excellency the Governor General will take such precautionary measures as will ensure the preservation of the peace and the safety of foreigners in this province.

The American consul avails himself of this opportunity to send assurances of highest esteem, with compliments and cord.

(signed) Charles Seymour,

consul of the United States of America.

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An official reply from His Excellency "Chang", Governor  
General of the Two Luangs to Honorable Charles Seymour, U.  
S. Consul in regard to anti-Chinese riots in San Francisco.

Translation.

I have to officially reply to His Honor the Consul's dispatch,  
here in the dispatch is quoted verbatim et literatim of which  
I have had a full perusal. When His Honor the Consul's  
semi-official communication came to hand in reference to  
this affair, I the Viceroy have already given secret instructions  
to suppress and guard against any disturbance and to show  
the right way to the people; furthermore, in my reply thereto,  
here contains a request for telegraphic message to be promptly  
forwarded to the Minister of your Honored Country at the Capital  
to clearly investigate and promptly adjust the affair. As to  
the statement made in your dispatch stating that the news  
may not be true or it may be exaggerated; I find that the  
anti-Chinese riots in San Francisco have originated some-  
time during last (Chinese) autumn and winter, and have  
been reported in China and foreign countries. Formerly,  
his Viceroy Yamen has received telegrams from the Chinese  
Minister, and also of late, numerous reports from officials  
and merchants in foreign ports, all stating that the calam-  
ity has not as yet been dispelled; that the malicious plots  
of the riotous elements are aiming to compel the Chinese  
to be without any employment. Reports of that nature can  
never

never be without foundation. As to the statement made in your dispatch stating that 'if it is true, there is no doubt but that the United States Government will act with justice. Searching judiciously into this affair, in what manner will your Honored Country act with justice, in order that justice may be obtained. Whether your Honor the Consul after having received my reply of day before yesterday's date, have telegraphed to have the affair carried out or not, and, whether a telegraphic answer has been received or not; it is requested that the facts will be minutely given in a reply for deliberation. Your dispatch again states that no American Native citizen is implicated thus far; upon examining the reports of the officials and merchants in foreign ports, which state that the rioters of that port have been naturalized American citizens; then they (rioters) cannot be alleged or considered to be citizens or subjects of any other nationality. In short, those who are implicated in the offense are rioters (the port of San Francisco, U. S. A. In the event that the United States should adjust the affair reasonably so that the grievances of the Chinese subjects in that port might be avenged and their lives and property secure; the feeling of the Chinese will naturally be saddened. When the Chinese in foreign country are safe, so will foreigners in China be safe, for the rule of justified action cannot partake any divergence.

Quang Dui 12<sup>th</sup> year, 1<sup>st</sup> moon, 23<sup>rd</sup> day. (February 26, 1896)



(copy)

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Consulate of the United States of A  
Canton, China, February 27. 56  
To His Excellency, "Chang",  
Viceroy of the Two Szeches  
Canton.

Sir:

The American Consul has  
the honor to acknowledge having received  
last evening Your Excellency's dispatch of  
yesterday in regard to the alleged anti-Chinese  
riots in America; and to thank Your Excellency  
for the kind and judicious manner in which  
the entire question has been treated in Canton;  
where perfect order has been maintained  
under peculiarly trying circumstances;  
as I can declare, after walking for a couple  
of hours through the streets of Canton yesterday,  
where I have always experienced courtesy  
and kindness.

In reply to Your Excellency's requests  
and inquiries about telegrams to the American  
Minister at Peking, I have to inform Your  
Excellency that all American Consuls  
in China transmit their reports, dispatches,  
(and)

(2)

correspondence to their Government in Washington, and to the American Legation in Peking, through the United States Consulate General at Shanghai; and all correspondence ~~to~~ has recently been returned. Your Excellency and this Consulate has been copied and sent to His Excellency, the United States Minister at Peking; and that I have also telegraphed to the Consul General of the United States at Shanghai in regard to this matter.

By adopting that system, the American Minister gets information simultaneously from all Chinese ports.

Hoping for good and honorable results, and with renewed assurances of esteem, the American Consul sends compliments and card.

Charles Seymour  
Consul of the United States of America.

ask with thanks  
J. D. P.  
So Ac  
April 1886



*D. H. Clair*

*No. 98*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*March 16 1886*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. James D. Porter,  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Inclosing Copy of translation  
of Nicro's dispatch to the U.S.  
Consul, dictating telegram about*

SYNOPSIS.

*Reprisals.*

No. 98

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

March 16<sup>th</sup> 1886

Hon. James D. Felt

Sec. Sec. of State.

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inclose translation of a dispatch from His Excellency, the Viceroy of the Two Chinas, at 9 P.M. March 11<sup>th</sup> 1886, marked and numbered  $\frac{10}{9}$ , in reply to my dispatch to him on the evening of March 6<sup>th</sup> 1886, a copy of which was inclosed in my dispatch No. 96 to the Department, marked and numbered  $\frac{9}{1}$ , in regard to a published telegram, which imputed to the Viceroy fear fears of Chinese reprisals if their claims are disallowed.

The Viceroy disclaims having mentioned or referred to "reprisals" in his telegram or dispatch to the Chinese Legation in Washington.

He has requested the British Consul to have Hongkong journals publish his denial of the telegram imputed to him in regard to "reprisals".

The Interpreters of the British and U.S. Consulates separately worked out the translation of His Excellency's Dispatch now inclosed; and both declare it was written by the Viceroy in person; as it bears marks of authoritative style, freedom of formality, and dignity blended with kindness, which no one but himself would venture to use in official correspondence.

I am, Sir, Dear Sir,

Charles Seymour

U.S. Consul

one inclosure

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J

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

An official reply from His Excellency Chang, Governor-General of the Two Guangs to Honorable Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul, Canton, in regard to anti-Chinese riots in San Francisco, Cal.

Translation.

I the Viceroy have to reply to His Honor the Consul's dispatch, (here-in the dispatch is quoted verbatim et literatim), of which I have had a full perusal. On a thorough examination, the telegram published in Hong Kong newspapers is really hard to believe. Relating to this case, I the Viceroy has previously sent a telegram to His Excellency Juán Chinese Minister to America, requesting him to exert his capability in consulting with the Foreign Office of Your Honored Country to discover the rioters, to indemnify the claims and to protect the Chinese subjects. There was nothing said of reprisal. I the Viceroy have heretofore been deeply aware of the exceedingly friendly relation maintained between Your Honored Country and mine and also of the utmost equity and justice with which Your Honored Country manage affairs. On a former occasion, there was an official communication from me begging His Honor the Consul to telegraph to Your Honored Country to promptly and satisfactorily adjust the matter, with the wish of nothing more than to cause the Chinese and American merchants to live in mutual tranquillity and to manifest in a higher degree the existing friendliness. It will be seen on examination, that the Viceroy recently have adopted many ways in the line of protection and in guarding against and suppressing any outbreak, from which my sincerity of treatment is wholly apparent. As to what the London telegraph states, there

is no truth in it. Although rioters in San Francisco are numerous, but the proclamations of your Honors Country prohibiting and punishing the rioters have already come to my knowledge. For instance, your Honors Government, being called upon for several times, refuse to adjust the affair with justice; our Government on having the subject clearly memorialized by His Excellency the Minister, will devise an upright and justifiable way of managing the matter; and would not tolerate the subjects to seek any occasion for disturbance. My Government's humanity is extensive and far reaching, there would never be any such act of slaughter. The Viceroy having a pure-minded and a clear perception would not bring about any such uncalled act. Take for an example, <sup>just as</sup> a foreign telegram came, stating that your Honors Government has given order to the Senate to settle the indemnity arising out of the Box Spring case; ~~at that instance~~ the London telegram states that <sup>because</sup> your Honors Country made refusal, <sup>reminiscent of the protest at Canton</sup> take this for an inference, it can be deduced that it is a piece of unauthentic talk. After the affairs had taken place in San Francisco, foreigners in China have been somewhat cautious. On account of rumour being circulated to and fro, translators of English <sup>or foreign language</sup> would make all the more mistakes, the more times it is translated, when it reaches to this point, it is not at all worthy of credence. However, there ought to be a prompt settlement of the lives and property of those Chinese subjects who have suffered in the calamity, and to adopt good measures for meeting contingency that comes after, in order to be in accordant with reason and common sense.

The Irish faction or party, it appears, has been for a long period of time as naturalized as citizens of the United States, so they are your Honored Country's people. Now, if that faction is allowed to act obstinately and brutally treat others, to force the Chinese laborers out of work and injure their lives and property, without the least scruple or fear, when it is circulated to different countries, people will regard that the official orders of your Honored Country's high officials have no force <sup>and</sup> power over the natives, if this not still more to be regretted? Although I the Viceroy can prohibit any reprisal, but if the affairs in San Francisco are not satisfactorily adjusted, the feeling of the people would not be contented, and when their feeling is not satisfied, although they dare not seek any occasion for disturbance; there would be many hindrances to all the affairs that are to come. It is requested that your Honor the Consul will again forward a telegraphic message to the Consul General to telegraph to your Honored Country to adjust the matter satisfactorily, for which thanks are rendered. As to measures for guarding and protecting, I the Viceroy at present am <sup>at</sup> giving proper orders. With compliments &c. &c.

Shang Sü / 2<sup>nd</sup> year. 2<sup>nd</sup> moon. 6<sup>th</sup> day. (March 11, 1886)





*ae may 20 86*  
*No. 99*



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*April 6 1886*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. James D. Porter,  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Inclosing and transmitting the  
Account, Vouchers, and Returns,  
for 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 1886*

*Mem. SYNOPSIS. Inclosures.*

*Digest of Service Book.*

*Quarterly Account for Rent and Miscellaneous Expenses.*

*Nine sets of Vouchers - Nos. 1 to 9, in duplicate, in 2 Claps.*

*Total = 4 inclosures (including vouchers in 2 Claps).*

No. 99

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

April 6<sup>th</sup> 1885

Hon. James D. Potter.

Sec. Sec. of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith "Quarterly Account," with Vouchers in duplicate; with "Digest of Service Book," which is the only return and business to report for this Consulate, and the Legation Agency; for first quarter of 1885.

I am, Sir,

Yours Respectfully,

Charles Seymour,

U.S. Consul.

Inclosures  
as stated  
on 1<sup>st</sup> page

*ackd. R. June 22/86*



*No. 100*

United States Consulate, Canton, China

*April 26 1886*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. James D. Porter,  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*The visit of W. Minister,  
Col Denby, at Canton*

SYNOPSIS.

*Interchange of courtesies*

No. 100.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

April 26<sup>th</sup> 1888  
Hon. James D. Foster.  
Asst. Sec. of State,  
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor and  
pleasure to report to the Department  
of State that the visit of His  
Excellency, Gen. Charles Ruby,  
Extraordinary and Minister  
Plenipotentiary of the United States  
to China, at Canton, was of a  
most satisfactory character,  
in respect to its auspicious influence  
in maintaining friendly relations  
between the high Chinese Authorities  
at Canton and American and all foreign  
Officials and residents in Southern China.

The Minister met all American and many other foreign residents during his visit. In view of the facts, that nearly all of the Chinese residents in the United States went from this Province, and that their complaints of bad treatment in America had a tendency to engender unfriendly feelings among the natives of Kwang-Tung toward American residents in this part of China; and that the present Viceroy of the Two Kwangs, although a distinguished scholar in Chinese lore, has had little or no intercourse with foreigners, and has been disposed to maintain exclusiveness, and cherish prejudices against foreigners, especially since his official duties in Southern China were intimately connected with suppression operations to resist foreign hostilities, Minister Ostry's visit has been timely and valuable.

The selection of Canton, the Southern Metropolis of China, as the first port to visit, in his tour of observation and inspection, by the Minister, on account of avoiding exposure to the heat of Summer, proved to have been a fortunate selection; as it tested the temper of the officials and community, where circumstances combined to make courteous relations and friendly intercourse most difficult; but, success having attended the Minister's mission here, so far as promoting a good understanding between Chinese and Americans is concerned, through interchange of social courtesies, between high and influential representatives of China and the United States of America, it is reasonable to expect, that, in his progress among other Treaty Ports of China, the U.S. Minister will elicit manifestations of respect and friendship.

The festivities at the Viceroy's Yamen on Thursday, 22<sup>d</sup> instant, and at the Consulate on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> instant, (at both of which were His Excellency, Viceroy "Chang", and His Excellency, U.S. Minister (Dunby, with a good representation of accomplished officers of the U.S. Navy, from the U.S.S. "Harris" and U.S.S. "Monroe", and several Chinese officials, including General and Admiral Wang, and His Excellency the Salt Commissioner) were occasions of much social cheer and amiable expressions.

His Excellency, the Viceroy, having received Col. Dunby with marked demonstrations of courtesy, nothing was omitted to make the first visit of the Viceroy on Shamien agreeable at the U.S. Consulate; and it is proper to add that the "Guard of Honor", from the two U.S. War vessels, and the entire battalion of the U.S. "Monroe", with a superb band of music, and appropriate salutes from the ships, contributed much to the desired effect.

I refrain from giving a synopsis of the prolonged interview of four hours at the Viceroy's; ~~and~~ three hours at this Consulate, as to topics and themes under discussion; but will merely remark that the first toast proposed at the banquet in this consulate was "The health of the President of the United States of America", offered by His Excellency the Viceroy, which was duly honored.

It is a source of gratification to myself to know that my course here during critical and eventful times, in strict compliance with my sense of duty, presented no obstacle to the utmost cordiality and respect shown the higher officials of the two countries on the occasion of the U. S. Minister's visit to Canton.

I am, Sir,

Ever Most Respectfully,

Charles Seymour  
U. S. Consul



HONGKONG DAILY PRESS  
**EXTRA FOR AMERICAN MAIL.**

---

HONGKONG, 24TH APRIL, 2 P.M.

---

*VISIT OF THE AMERICAN MINISTER  
TO CANTON.*

—◆—  
CANTON, 23rd April, 1886.

His Excellency Colonel Denby, United States Minister to China, on his tour of the ports, arrived here on the afternoon of the 16th instant in the midst of stormy weather that lasted several days of excessive wet that had barely admitted of interchanges of courtesy but for the perseverance of Mr. Consul Seymour, whose guest he was. But, at length the clouds were rifted and the sombre aspect over city and suburbs no longer obstructs the flow of intercourse. Yesterday, Colonel Denby visited His Excellency the Viceroy, accompanied by the Commanders of the U. S. men-of-war *Marion* and *Monocacy*, and their suites, as well as by the Chinese Secretary of the Legation (Mr. Cheshire), and the Consul; and was entertained at a banquet of about forty courses, lasting several hours. To-morrow, the Viceroy will pay the return visit to the United States Minister at the Consulate and partake of luncheon there. Thus the *ice* that has been rather thick between the distant Viceregal Yamèn and Shameen during the past two years, is yielding to the genial rays of clearer skies; and we may well congratulate the American Minister that the happier auspices of his advent in the "Wide South" have produced the salutary change.

E. P. U.

act. 8. 28. 86  
 No 101  
 JUN 9 1886  
 RECEIVED  
 27/11/86  
 Consulate, Canton, China.  
 April 29<sup>th</sup> 1886  
 Hon. James D. Porter  
 Asst. Sec. of State  
 Washington D.C.

Sir:  
 I have the honor to transmit  
 herewith the China Mail's report  
 of Mr. Minster's visit to Canton;  
 from the pen of its correspondent,  
 Rev. Granger Hargreaves, of the  
 English Wesleyan Mission.  
 Col. Denby's visit to Canton  
 having been the subject of my  
 last dispatch, No. 100, this  
 follows in continuation of my report.

I am Sir, Yours obedient servant,  
 Charles Seymour  
 M. Consul.  
 one inclosure  
 23  
 China Mail  
 April 27, 1886

## The China Mail.

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 1886.

### Canton.

(From our Correspondent).

Canton, April 24th, 1886.

To-day has been marked as a red letter day of H. E. Cheung Chi Hing's regime as Viceroy of the Two Kwangs. The last of a series of dinners in honour of the American Minister's visit to Canton was given by our genial and energetic American Consul, Mr Seymour. We have had frequent occasion to comment on Consul Seymour's good services on the part of foreign residents here and his earnest efforts to promote cordiality and good will between the Chinese and foreigners generally.

In conformity with instructions received from the United States Government the Hon. Charles Denby, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to China, is making a tour of inspection of the U. S. Consulates and the Treaty ports in China.

Owing to the fact that Canton is one of the oldest and most populous as well as one of the most opulent cities in the Empire, and also because the larger proportion of Chinese in the United States come from the Canton province, Col. Denby selected this port as the most important point at which to commence his tour.

The U. S. Minister is conveyed on his mission by the U. S. S. *Marion*, which arrived at Whampoa on Friday, the 16th inst., since which date Col. Denby has been honoured by marked and generous attentions at Canton by officials, representatives and residents of various nationalities, and also by the high Chinese Authorities.

On Saturday evening, the 17th inst., Col. Denby met the American missionaries at a dinner given by Consul Seymour at the U. S. Consulate. On Monday evening, the 19th inst., Consul Seymour invited the Consular Corps of Canton, the Captains and Officers of the U. S. S. *Marion* and U. S. S. *Monocacy*, along with several ladies and gentlemen, to meet Col. Denby, when about forty guests sat down to dinner.

On Tuesday evening, the officers of the U. S. S. *Monocacy* entertained Col. Denby and several guests on board.

On Thursday last H. E. the Viceroy gave the U. S. Minister a sumptuous feast of about four hours' duration. The preparation of the viands and their number well entitle the Chinese to vie with the French in the culinary art. The articles on the menu cards numbered upwards of forty.

On Friday the representative of that old and renowned family Howqua gave Col. Denby a banquet, after which the family gardens and the grounds connected with the Honam temple were explored.

The festivities of the week closed to-day with a magnificent return banquet at the U. S. Consulate given by Consul Seymour, when H. E. the Viceroy returned the American Minister's visit. His Excellency the Viceroy was attended by H. E. the Salt Commissioner, General Wong, Messrs Tsai, Kwong, interpreters &c., in the Viceroy's Yamen.

Chinese soldiers were drawn up in order on the East bridge on Shameen and along the bund, and a blast from trumpets responded to the beating of large gongs which announced His Excellency's approach. Guards of honour consisting of soldiers and marines from both the American ships were drawn up in front of the U. S. Consulate. A salute of seventeen guns was fired from the U. S. S. *Monocacy* both on the Viceroy's arrival and departure. The band from the *Monocacy* played selections of music during the repast. Besides those mentioned above there were present Minister Denby, General Cheshire, Chinese Secretary of the U. S. Legation; Mr Gideon Nye, U. S. Vice-Consul; and the Captains and officers from both the American ships.

Col. Denby is accompanied on his expedition by ex-Consul General Cheshire whose knowledge of the Chinese language and customs eminently fit him for great usefulness in his official duties.

We heartily congratulate Minister Denby and Consul Seymour on the very marked success of the visit, and we are convinced that the foreign residents of this port and the American Community in particular have contracted a very large debt of gratitude to Consul Seymour for ensuring such success to the week's proceedings.


The visit of Col. Denby is most timely and appropriate. The foreign officials at Canton and all interested in securing more intimate relations with the Chinese Authorities are to be congratulated upon the success of Col. Denby's visit. It is to be hoped that such international courtesies as we have witnessed this week may lead to more genial intercourse between native and foreign officials.

After lunch on the American Minister the Vice-Consul called upon the representatives of other nations on Shameen.

The visits of the British and French Consuls are returned at their different yamens in the city. The Viceroy therefore did not call at the British Consulate.

Canton, Sunday Evening.

On Friday evening, the 23rd instant, H. B. M. Consul gave an elegant dinner in honour of Col. Denby's visit. There were present the Consuls and representatives of various nationalities, several officers from the U. S. S. *Monocacy* and the Captain of the Austrian S. S. *Nautilus*.

*Ans'd Aug 18/88*  
*No. 102*  
United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*May 20 1888*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. James D. Porter,  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Protection of foreign residents  
and interests in China*

SYNOPSIS.

Mr. Adee

Mr. Sherman after looking up the question without finding anything from the Consuls in China or anything satisfactory from the Minister, came to me to know my recollection upon the subject.

My recollection is the same as your own. The measure was a temporary one during the perilous Franco-Chinese times, in order to guarantee due and proper protection to neutrals.

I have also examined the despatches. I find no permanent agreement; but a sort of mutual understanding between the commanders of the fleets of Germany, Russia, Great Britain and the U.S. in China, so as not to keep their vessels of any one power at one particular point, & thereby afford ample protection to all neutral interests, & thus

July 6. 1886

Mr Brown

Please let somebody.  
look at the correspondence  
which led to this joint naval  
arrangement and give me  
a précis of it.

My impression is that  
it was a temporary ex-  
pedient, due solely to the  
Franco-Chinese hostilities  
and not intended to be  
permanent. I don't see how  
it can justly be made perma-  
nent.

adg

Mr. Adee =

Please see what  
Mr. Cridler says -  
I suggest that  
the Council be  
answered in  
the sense of your  
note -

Z. O. C. Lacy

Also, but if possible refer  
to number & date of Mr. Young's des-  
patch and our reply covering the  
point.

Aug. 7/86

A. A. L.  
Aug 7. 86.

No. 102

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 21. 1882

Hon. James D. Porter

Sec. Sec. of State

Washington D. C.

Sir

I have the honor to inform you that the excellent arrangement, made in the Convention of several of the Western Powers, for the protection of neutral interests at Treaty Ports in China, by the co-operation of their Ships-of-war for the security of the lives and property of foreigners at such ports, has been so abruptly and discontinuously ignored by a British Commodore, who is presumably acting under orders of the British Vice Admiral, on the British Station

(Station)



Station, as to occasion much solicitude among foreign residents of various nationalities, that serious results may occur, if the nation understood that hereafter any ship of war in port will protect interests of its nationality only.

The arrangement made for the security of neutral interests in ports of China was very necessary during the Sino-Japanese troubles, but as it has had a salutary influence in checking the growth of anti-foreign elements, and greatly enlarged the usefulness and efficiency of the Squadron of the Western Powers along this Asiatic Coast, its abandonment or interruption is deeply deplored.

(There

"These important things have been achieved and realized without adding a dollar of extra expense to any of the Western Powers, and without doing injustice or injury to any individual, Community, Nation, or Government.

There has been no clashing or conflict of authority, jurisdiction, or purpose, growing out of this wise combination of Western War-fleets; whose Commanders have conferred together, and acted harmoniously, in regard to the best means of using the forty or more Ships-of-War at their Command, for the protection of the lives, and security of the property, of peaceful and law-abiding foreign residents at Chinese ports.

Thus, by a well-divided system of co-operation, rotation, succession, relief, &c, the health, comfort, efficiency, influence, and usefulness of all connected with the various Squadrons were greatly augmented.

(24-)

+

It is well known that without such concert of action, those ports at which foreign war-vessels are ~~most~~ needed are ~~the~~ frequented; until some outbreak or outrage occurs; when ships - of - war of all foreign squadrons rush to the place for a grand ~~display~~ to the infinite amusement of the turbulent wretches, who quietly wait for the departure of the war-vessels before resuming mischief.

The Customs were formerly for the foreign Squadrons to pass their Winters at Hong Kong, or some of the Southern ports; and pass their Summers in Japanese ports; or at the Chinese Sanitarium, Chefoo, where sea-bathing is enjoyed by wealthy families from Southern and Central ports of China.

On July 5, 1884, when much uneasiness prevailed at all of the Chinese ports about the warlike preparations of China and France, I called the attention of the U.S. Captain at Peking to the fact that the little U.S.S. "Palos" (306 tons) was alone guarding 500 to 1000 miles of Chinese Coast - all South of Shanghai.

(H.)

At that time Commander Glidden, (one of the best men in the world) was dying with Chronic Dysentery, and had not sufficient strength to come ashore. He barely reached his home in time to die under his father's roof.

The Executive Officer of the "Palos", (Lieutenant Graydon) was so occupied with efforts to obtain contracts from the Chinese Authorities, for torpedo defenses, as to neglect his resignation.

And, thus, without disparaging the "Palos", the foreign Squadrons were not strongly represented on the Coast.

That case is stated to show that, irrespective of actual needs, the refreshing breezes of the North are sought in Summer, and the genial influence of the sunny South is courted in Winter, by the foreign War-Squadrons, if no systematic plan of co-operation is maintained by the Commanders of the Western Squadrons on the Chinese Coast.

(Under)

6/

Under the co-operative system of protecting foreigners and their interests, during the past two years, it must be apparent to all who who have witnessed actual proceedings on the Chinese Coast, the most important, valuable, and efficient service has been rendered by the United States Navy; and it is not unjust to claim that the services of U.S. War-ships in protecting all foreign interests at Treaty Ports in China, for the past two years, exceed those of all other Nations.

It should be remembered that, during a considerable portion of this time, the French War-ships were engaged in warlike operations; and the British War-ships were watching the movements of Russian War-ships, and attending to acquisition in the direction of Port Harmer; and the German War-ships were busy with Colonial foundations and enterprises in the Pacific, and in Africa.

(S-)

It then happened that the greater portion of the police-duty at the Treaty ports in China devolved upon the Warships of the United States of America; because the American Republic had an efficient Squadron on the Asiatic Coast, and was not encumbered with war, or seeking territorial acquisitions.

The fact that the difficult task entrusted to the U.S. Navy, in its representation, was well performed, is established by the concurrent and unanimous testimony of the foreign Communities at the various Treaty Ports in China.

Admiral Dowell, upon retiring from the command of the British Squadron on the Asiatic Coast, was honored by a Ball, Dinner, and a testimonial, at the City Hall in Hong Kong, on November 6<sup>th</sup> 1885; when he made the following handsome acknowledgments of the services rendered by Admiral Davis, of the U.S. Navy.

8/

" I desire to take advantage of  
 " this opportunity to say a few words in  
 " recognition of the great courtesy I have  
 " received from the officers commanding the  
 " squadrons of these Powers which joined us  
 " in the Convention for providing for the protection  
 " of neutral interests at Treaty Ports during  
 " the late Sino-Chinese troubles."

" It fell to my lot, as a Vice Admiral,  
 " to be the Senior Officer of the Station; and the  
 " ready and cordial co-operation rendered by  
 " my colleagues, Admiral Dewey of the  
 " United States Navy, Admiral Matsunuma  
 " of the Japanese Navy, Commodore Paschen  
 " of the German Navy, and Captain Accorini  
 " of the Italian Navy, on all occasions, merits  
 " my warmest acknowledgments."

" That the events which took place on the  
 " shore in August last year - when the large  
 " population of Tientsin was in a state  
 " of such ferment and excitement, that the  
 " Mandarins had almost entirely lost all  
 " control, were, happily unattended by  
 " injury to either life or property in the Native  
 " Settlement, must, in a great measure,

(61)

"be attributed to the cool judgment "  
 " of Admiral Davis of the United States "  
 " Navy; and Captain Pawlett of H.M.S. "  
 " "Champion", (board apprentice), who "  
 " were in charge of the men stationed off "  
 " the Settlement from the British and "  
 " American Squadrons." ... "  
 " The crisis passed away, and it "  
 " was a matter for little congratulation "  
 " to us that within a week the cargo boats "  
 " were running again with tea for the steamer "  
 " at Pagoda. "

Notwithstanding the greater magnitude of  
 British interests at all Ports in China,  
 as compared with American and other foreign  
 interests, the security of all foreign interests  
 at those ports, during the critical times of 1884  
 and 1885, was chiefly attained through the vigilance  
 and fidelity of American war-ships, commanded  
 by efficient and capable officers of prudence  
 and pluck, who met the emergency wisely,  
 gracefully, and courageously.

No official notice has been received by any  
 of the foreign consuls here that the cooperative  
 arrangement of the Convention of Western Rivers is intended.

(The)



10/

The foreign residents of all nationalities sincerely desire that the cooperative arrangement now being made, as it has been silent, is that all foreign interests may be protected, and all of the foreign ships of war.

The solicitude now felt in the foreign community is caused by the action of the British Vice Admiral, and the British Commodore, in not only permitting to send British ships of war to protect either British or other foreign interests at this Port; but in refusing to send relief for a few days, to enable the U.S. "Monroe", now at Canton under orders to protect all foreign interests, to go to Hong Kong, to meet the homeward-bound U.S. "Pleasant" for transfer of stores, guns, munitions of war, sailors and officers, and also to go into dock for necessary repairs; and to give the "Monroe" crew liberty for a few days, after many months of confinement at Canton and Canton; and Commodore Mervant's announcement that hereafter British ships of war will protect British interests only.

(Influential)

Influential British residents, who have corresponded with Vice Admiral Hamilton (Successor to Admiral Dowell) for the purpose of procuring upon him to deal justly with their interests, have been so rudely repulsed, as to feel incensed by his treatment.

Vice Admiral Hamilton is quoted by Captain Millet, of the U.S. "Marion", and by Captain Barclay, of the U.S. "Albatross", as having uttered strong objections to using British ships to settle American quarrels.

His allusion is understood to include the disturbance at Chinhai, of which you doubtless received full particulars, and the Chinese troubles in the United States, with possibility of retaliation at Canton.

He has certainly made some very unkind and injudicious remarks; which contrast strangely with those of his respected predecessor, Admiral Dowell, who understood Chinese affairs.

(cvt.)

17

At request of Commander Glass,  
of the U.S.S. "Monoway", I accompanied  
him to the British Consulate about  
eight days ago; when the British Consul,  
A. Frater, Esquire, one of the most  
courteous of gentlemen, was informed  
of the facts and circumstances as to  
the necessity of the U.S.S. "Monoway"  
meeting the U.S.S. "Trenton" at Hong Kong,  
and the need of docking for repairs.

Consul Frater cheerfully complied  
with Captain Glass' request that  
Commander Morant, of H.B.M.  
Ship, at Hong Kong, would send a  
war vessel to relieve the "Monoway"  
a few days; as the "Monoway" was under  
orders to remain at Canton, and protect  
all foreign interests; until relieved by  
some other foreign vessel.

On the 14th day, 1886, Consul  
Frater wrote to Captain Glass as follows:

"I have heard this morning from Commander Morant  
"He says that he will probably send the "Vigilant" off to Canton  
"on Monday or Tuesday next, and that, though he  
"has every desire wish to oblige you, she

(will)

*From the China Mail*  
May 17, 1886.

Canton correspondent comments with severity upon the apparent break-up of the Mutual Protection arrangement entered into by the naval authorities of the United States, Germany, Great Britain, and other Powers, and which existed during the Franco-Chinese reprisals. He tells us that the European residents at Canton are much exercised in mind and feeling at what appears to be an act of discourtesy on the part of the English Admiral (or Commodore) towards the United States, refusing to relieve the U. S. gunboat *Monocacy* for a few days at that port. We course give publicity to this remonstrance from the City of Rams, and do so more readily, because it is stated that the application for an English war-vessel named from H.B.M. Consul there. Even supposing that the idea of combined protection has been abandoned, it seems to be only exercising a reasonable precaution, all circumstances considered, to have a British gunboat at Canton when no other vessel of war is stationed there. British interests mainly predominate there, as they do elsewhere in China; and it is unlikely that a British Consul would recommend the dispatch of an English gunboat if no necessity existed for its presence. There is reason to believe that the despatch-vessel *Vigilant* was to have relieved the U. S. S. *Monocacy* to-morrow, although this intention may have to be changed on account of the mishap which has happened to the *Albatross* while that vessel was assisting the wounded steamer *Dafila*. The gun-vessel *Vigilant* left this afternoon in order to give assistance to the *Albatross*; and as the *Sappho* and *Merlin* are being refitted, the *Vigilant* will now be the only vessel available for any special duty. It thus appears that the Senior Naval Officer here had been making arrangements to protect British (and other) interests at Canton, whether or not those arrangements could be properly described as 'relieving the *Monocacy*' would depend upon the break-up or otherwise of the mutual protection agreement before referred to. Of course, the policy of the Admirals has invariably been to keep the smaller ports amply supplied in the way of protection. We can hardly think that the tone of the Commodore's reply could have ever been intended to be discourteous to any one concerned; and we must await further information ere we express an opinion distinct from the Naval authorities on that point.

# THE PROTECTION OF FOREIGN INTERESTS IN CANTON.

(From our Correspondent.)

Canton, May 15.

The foreign community in Canton has been somewhat astonished by an act of international discourtesy which almost staggers one's faith to believe. Happily such acts are infrequent. The circumstances of the present case, when viewed in the light of the past few years, are so aggravated that we would fain hope some misrepresentation has been made. But they are such as to preclude any such hope.

It appears that the U.S.S. *Monocacy*, which is at present in Canton, is in need of repairs, and Commander Glass wished to transfer some invalided and time-expired officers and men to the U.S.S. *Trenton*, which ship is on her way home. Commander Glass also desired to procure a few guns and some ammunition stores from the *Trenton*. With a view to these things, Commander Glass asked, through H.B.M. Consul, if a British gunboat could be sent up to relieve him for a few days until he attended to the above matters. Commodore Morant, acting, we presume, in accordance with instructions from Vice Admiral Vesey Hamilton, wrote in reply what was practically a refusal or worse than a refusal. True he promised that a boat would be sent for a few days, but supplemented his promise in such a manner that deprived it of any graciousness, stating as he did that the gun-vessel's stay in Canton or recall to Hongkong would be irrespective of the return to Canton of the U. S. *Monocacy* or any other ship of war. Commodore Morant goes on to say that any British ship of war henceforth visiting Canton will come for the protection of British interests only. That the British navy is ostensibly kept to protect British interests only, no one will question; but in view of the history of past few years, we can conceive of nothing more ungrateful and ungracious than the above sentiments. If no British interests existed in Canton, we could better understand the remarks.

During the greater part of the time that has elapsed since the riots of Sept. 10th 1883, the foreign community of Canton has been under obligation to the American gunboats for protection and security. We recall with pleasure and gratitude the prolonged visits of the U. S. S. *Palos*, *Monocacy*, *Juniata*, *Essex*, *Enterprise*, and *Alert*, besides those of the larger ships the *Richmond* and *Marion*, which could only come as far as the barriers. The *Alert* has been here twice, both visits combined extending over a space of ten months, and the *Monocacy* has been here three times, making altogether a period of over ten months. During the same time, viz., from Sept. 1883, we have seen of H.B.M. squadron the *Swift*, *Espeir*, *Daring*, *Merlin*, *Essex*, and the *Midge*, which have paid us flying visits, one or two (as the *Daring* and *Swift*) staying a month or two. The rest of the time the majority of British gun-vessels have been pleasantly enjoying themselves in the cool and bracing North, whilst the American gunboats have been left in the hot and enervating South to look after their own and British interests. In the face of these facts can it be wondered at that the Community of Canton are

more than astonished that an insignificant request for a few days' relief should be met in the manner above indicated. The fact that the Chinese Government will rejoice at the opportunity presented for playing off the U.S. Government against the British Government on the diplomatic chess-board is a small matter but we certainly think that the services rendered by the U.S. squadron whilst the British squadron was occupying Port Hamilton and watching the movements of the Russian fleet called for a more courteous and grateful response.

It can easily be shown that British interests in Canton predominate, and that in virtue of Canton being so near to Hongkong, Hongkong depending so much on Canton and the temperance of the Cantonese, the constant presence of a gunboat is an absolute necessity. We know Admiral Hamilton and Commodore Morant have for some time been of a different opinion, but we who know more of the Cantonese and the history of the past three years feel that our opinion is the correct one.

The reply to the request of Commander Glass, which reply, we suppose, emanates from Admiral Hamilton, contrasts very strangely with the remarks made by Admiral Dowell at the City Hall on November 6th 1885, when a farewell ball, supper, and presentation were given in honour of that much-respected Naval Officer. Admiral Dowell then stated that he desired to take advantage of the opportunity presented to say a few words in recognition of the great courtesy he had received from the officers commanding the squadrons belonging to those powers which had joined with the British in a convention to protect neutral interests at the Treaty Ports during the late Franco-Chinese troubles. Mentioning the names of the various Admirals and Commanders associated with him, Sir William paid special compliment to Admiral Davis, of the U. S. Navy, saying that the crisis in Foochow, when the mandarins had lost almost all control on the Chinese, passed without any loss of life or property. This Sir William attributed in a great measure to the cool judgment of Admiral Davis, of the U. S. Navy, and Captain Powlett of H.M.S. *Champion*. Will Admiral Hamilton when he leaves the China Station leave behind him as good a report of his courteous demeanour towards officers of other Navies, or will he be able to echo Admiral Dowell's sentiments respecting the courtesy he has received from those officers?

*From Hong Kong Telegraph*  
May 17, 1886.

A CANTON correspondent writes under date the 15th inst. :—As the United States frigate *Trenton* is shortly expected at Hongkong the commander of the *Monocacy*, at present stationed here, was desirous of taking his vessel down to your port for about a week in order to transfer a number of officers and men, as well as a quantity of stores, &c., to the *Trenton*, which is homeward bound. Application was accordingly made through the British consul that a British gunboat should be sent up from Hongkong to take the *Monocacy's* place for a few days, the latter being the only foreign man-of-war now in Canton. A reply to this application was received yesterday from the Naval authorities at Hongkong to the effect that the despatch vessel *Vigilant* would shortly proceed to Canton, but that her arrival and departure would have nothing to do with the movements of a man of war belonging to any other country, and further that she would only look after the interests of British subjects. This anything but diplomatic reply has caused a considerable amount of more or less acrimonious discussion here, and it certainly seems a strange breach of international courtesy, particularly as the American war ships have been at all times most ready to afford every possible protection to the subjects of any European nation.—A telegram was received here a few days ago from Mr. Fulton, an American missionary at Kwongsi, stating that his house had been burned down. As yet it is not known how this happened.

"will probably be recalled irrespective"  
"of the return of the Albatross" or"  
"any other ship-of-war."

"He adds that any"  
"British ship-of-war hither"  
"visiting Canton will come for the"  
"protection of British interests only."

"Yours Very Truly,"  
(signed) "A. Forster."

The Correspondents (both British)  
of the China Mail and the  
Hong Kong Telegraph have  
given expression to the feelings  
of the foreign community at  
Canton in regard to Commodore  
Morant's answer to the request.

Appended are clippings from  
those journals containing items mentioned  
in last paragraph - marked A.

Respectfully, but  
urgently, do I ask the attention of the  
Department to the facts herein set forth, which  
affect all foreign residents and interests in China.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,  
Charles Seymour.  
U.S. Consul.

{ Appended }  
{ A }

*with No. 102*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*May 20<sup>th</sup> 1886*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. James D. Porter,  
Assistant Secretary of State;  
Washington, D. C.*

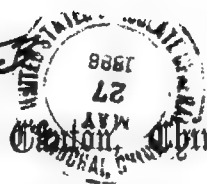
**Subject.**

SYNOPSIS.

Mr. Everett

Inst. to Mr. Deuby.  
9 July 86.

No. 103



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 21<sup>st</sup> 1886

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. James D. Porter,  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Outrages at Kwai Ping,  
in Province of Kwang Si,  
May 6<sup>th</sup> 1886.

SYNOPSIS.

Losses of the American Presbyterian Mission Hospital,  
" " " Dalton, and Others.  
American Claims = \$5,116.80  
Particulars of the outrages.

No. 103

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 21<sup>st</sup> 1886

H. James D. Parker

Asst. Secy of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that Rev. Asst. Fulton and wife, and Miss Mary H. Fulton M.D. (sister of Asst. Fulton), all of the American Presbyterian Mission in China, in the latter part of last year (1885), established a Medical-Mission Hospital and Mission Station at Kwei-Ping, in the Province of Kwang Si, about four hundred miles South-West from Canton.



✓

This missionary enterprise seemed to be established under favorable auspices. The hospital was a prominent feature of the mission, and on two occasions the eminent Dr. John C. Kerr, who has been superintendent of the Great Medical Mission Hospital in Canton for over thirty years, has visited the Kwei Ping Mission Hospital in Kowang Si, and only returned to Canton about 24th April last, having left Kwei Ping about a week previously, and reported favorably as to the prospects of the enterprise.

The missionaries hired buildings for themselves, and native assistants, and a temporary hospital; and had already expended eight hundred and sixty five dollars toward erecting hospital &c.

It was unquestionably a bold enterprise; but it had been ordered by the Methodist Board of the American Protestant Society, expressly with the desire of the London; and as the people in the vicinity of Kwei Ping seemed favorable, there was encouragement to proceed.

Suddenly and violently the Kwei Ping Mission and Hospital came to grief; and the Trustees had to hasten to Canton - having barely escaped with their lives, and saving nothing except the clothes they wore when they left them behind and demolished Mission and Hospital in flames, surrounded by a desperate mob.

Placards appeared on the walls & elsewhere, in public places, announcing mischief; and stating that three days from that time the foreign-Devils must go, and their buildings be destroyed.

On 6<sup>th</sup> May a considerable crowd had assembled at Kwei Ping to witness the arrival and passage of the fleet of boats which conveyed the Imperial & other (Tong-min) Boundary Commissioners to Canton.

L

The Magistrate of the place had gone with some soldiers a few miles up the river to erect the Imperial Commission door.

Among the crowd at Kwei Ping were some soldiers, who were really the "advance guard" of the mob, & were first on the ground to make mischievous demonstrations, by piling fagots up against the door of the Council occupied by the Dultons.

There was no manifestation of trouble from the residents in the immediate vicinity of the Mission or Hospital.

The immediate causes of the trouble were the assemblage of about four thousand Chinese students at or near Kwei Ping competing for literary degrees at the triennial examinations, and the presence of a lawless lot of soldiers who were brought together for a display in honor of the Imperial Commissioner and his fleet en route to Canton.

It is thought the placards were prepared and exposed by some of the literati.

The Dulton noticed a few of them with fans urging on rougher fellows to outrage.

12

Mr Tulton went from his domicile to the Magistrate's Yamen, to get soldiers to come and protect his family and the property; but was followed by a mob, and so severely stoned, that he was not permitted to leave the Yamen.

He begged that soldiers might be sent to protect his family; but they sauntered off with apparent reluctance to offer any resistance to the mob.

These occurrences were between 9 and 10 o'clock A.M. Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> May.

About 10 A.M. the mob proceeded to pile straw on the jagots against the building occupied by Mrs. Tulton, Miss Tulton, and a little daughter of Mrs. Tulton. The buildings had been looted, and the stolen articles were put into boats which lay near the bank of the river.

Mr Tulton's family fled from their domicile just in time to avoid being burned alive, as the torch was then applied, and everything burnable was soon destroyed by the flames.

1/

Mrs and Miss Fulton and the little girl were without any assistance; and begged the occupants of boats near the bank of the river to let them come on the boats for safety, but the mob threatened to upset the boats if the women were allowed to embark.

After a separation of two hours the Fultons were all together in the steamer "Yamen", where they remained until Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May; when they were put into boats and conveyed to Canton, where they arrived on the evening of Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May.

Mr Fulton has prepared a statement and description of the losses sustained by the American Presbyterian Mission, by himself and family, and by Miss S. Fulton. Their losses are -

Mission property	£ 1,219. 32
Mr & Mrs Fulton	£ 2,301. 28
Miss S. "	£ 1,596. 20

Total = £ 5,116. 80

Besides above losses, two Chinese Assistants lost out £50. each = over £100.00 for both; and the owner of the property leased had his own dwelling destroyed. There were about six houses destroyed, including those occupied by Assistants.

It should be stated also that the looters and thieves actually tore the new bricks out of the walls that were erected for the Hospital, and carried them away.

Notwithstanding notice by placards for two days of the intention to do this work of destruction, no attempt was made to suppress the placards or defeat the purpose of the outlaws.

During the entire forenoon on which the outrages occurred, no resistance was offered by the local authorities to the acts of the mob, which could have been controlled by a few determined men who desired to prevent mischief.

The Case is one which will require careful attention; but pending the unsettled condition of affairs involving alleged losses by Chinamen in America, it will be difficult to make much progress in obtaining indemnity and redress for losses sustained by American residents in Southern China.

12

In the meantime, I will make proper representation of the facts to the Chinese Authorities, and shall not omit to urge the points mentioned in the first three paragraphs on last page, showing clearly that no efforts were made by the native officials to avert the outrage, or to offer any resistance to the marauders and ruffians; and also that soldiers in the service and pay of the Authorities led the way in atrocities which they should have been commanded to prevent.

Mr Fulton is preparing for this purpose a full statement of the incidents attending the destruction of the property at Kwei Ping.

I shall be glad to be instructed as to further action in the case.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour.  
W. General.

R. H. Blair

JUL 26 1886

No. 104

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 4 - 1886

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. James D. Porter,  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

War-ships and foreign residents  
at Chinese ports.

SYNOPSIS.

Transmitting "editorial"  
of Hong Kong Telegraph of  
June 2<sup>d</sup> & 3<sup>d</sup> 1886.



No 104

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 4 1886  
Honorable W. Foster  
Secy of State  
Washington D.C.

Sir

I have the honor, while  
adverting to my dispatch N<sup>o</sup> 102,  
dated May 20<sup>th</sup> 1886, to transmit  
herewith appended copy of an  
editorial article which appeared  
in the Harbinger of Wednesday  
2<sup>nd</sup> instant, and in its foreign serial  
Edition of Thursday. 3<sup>rd</sup> instant, in  
reference to the proposed disposal  
of the British Admiral's and  
Vice Admirals' ships in regard to  
war-ships protecting foreign residents in Chinese  
ports -

That journal is owned, published, and edited by a Scotoman and an Englishman, both of whom visited Canton a few days ago.

The writer of that article, I believe, was formerly an officer of H. B. M. S. May, and served in India and China.

His allusion to the important services rendered by officers of the H. B. M. S. to the British cause from on 25<sup>th</sup> June 1857, when the latter "were in dire distress", has reference to the British operations on the river Pekin; when Commander Tatum came to their rescue, and the occasion elicited from the Chinese officer the memorable, and <sup>original</sup> ~~disseminating~~ "blood is thicker than water", in return for the thanks of the British Commander.

I am Sir, Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour  
Esq.

# AN AMERICAN GRIEVANCE.

SCARCELY a day passes but we read of combinations, of a more or less serious nature, directed against British trade in one or another part of the world. The indifference or callousness of JOHN BULL in the matter has become proverbial, and not content with contemptuous disregard of glaring facts the situation is becoming more intensified by the stupidity and blundering of those officials whose duty it is to guard and protect the nation's interests. Take the recent case of the U. S. S. *Monocacy* for an example of how a trifling matter of courtesy can be raised to grave proportions by a thoughtless act, which it required but a modicum of commonsense to avert. The facts of the matter have already been mentioned in our columns; suffice it to say that the frigate *Trenton*, the flagship of the American Admiral, touched here on her homeward voyage, and the Commander of the U. S. S. *Monocacy*, which vessel is on guard off the foreign concession at Canton, deeming it expedient in order to exchange reliefs and receive stores, &c., from the *Trenton*, to bring the *Monocacy* to Hongkong, courteously informed the senior British Naval Officer here, through the British Consul, of his intention and requested as a favor that a British gunboat might be sent up for a few days, so that proper protection could be afforded the foreign community at Shamien during his temporary absence. In return, Captain GLASS and the United States Navy received from the hands of Commodore MORANT about as ungracious and purposeless a snub as it is possible to conceive, being coolly told that British war vessels in China were employed only to afford protection to British subjects. Apart from the inexcusable want of tact displayed, is this statement correct in fact? Are not war vessels of all civilized countries understood to afford protection to those in distress, regardless of nationality? If we are mistaken in this, we should like to be put right, and also to be informed, as England boasts of leading the vanguard of civilisation, how this dictum of Commodore MORANT is to be reconciled by any civilised standard whatever! If the actions of the United States Admiral and his officers during the recent crisis in this part of the world, so manfully acknowledged by Admiral Sir WILLIAM DOWELL at the celebration given in his honour at the City Hall, were not considered sufficient to earn the gratitude of Englishmen, they had only to recall the 25th of June 1859, when Commodore TATNALL came to the rescue of a British force in dire distress, the gallant American's own coxswain being killed by his side. Strange as it may seem, Commodore MORANT, if we mistake not, was present on that occasion, and the remembrance of such an heroic action should have influenced him in his dealings with his colleagues of the United States Navy; at all events it should have prevented him from administering an unmerited if not offensive snub to those who were only asking for that courtesy which under like circumstances they would have readily shown. We understand the instincts of the naval service sufficiently to feel sure that neither Admiral HAMILTON, nor Commodore MORANT would intentionally offer insult to the officers of a sister nation, but explain the fact as one may, there it

remains that by some careless blunder in a trifling matter of courtesy, an amount of soreness and ill feeling has been generated which it will take much to overcome. That this should occur at a moment when TENNYSON and others at home are doing so much to promote Anglo-Saxon ties which are of such consequence to the advancement of progress and civilisation generally, is a matter for sincere regret.

THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 1886.

## MAIL SUPPLEMENT. Hongkong Telegraph.

*By Clerk*

No. 105

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*July 2nd 1886*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. James D. Porter,  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Transmitting Returns,  
Accounts, and Vouchers,  
for Quarter ended June 30, 1886.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Inclosures - viz:*

- 1. Quarterly Account Book & Mr.*
- 2. Envelope containing Vouchers.*
- 3. Return of Receipts of Fees.*
- 4. Report of Service Book.*

No. 105-

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

July 2<sup>nd</sup> 1888

Mr. James D. Potter

Asst. Secy. of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to  
transmit herewith Return,  
Account, with Vouchers, for  
Quarter ended June 30. 1888.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour

U.S. Consul.

Enclosures - viz:

1. Quarterly Account.

2. Envelope containing 8 sets Vouchers.

3. Return of Aggregate of Fees for fiscal year.

4. Digest of Invoice Book

ack. J. D. P. 18/86 Dr. St. Clair  
No. 106

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

July 16-1886

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. James D. Porter,  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Rev. Instructions.

SYNOPSIS.

No. ~~100~~

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

July 16, 1898  
Hon. James D. Smith  
Asst. Sec. of State  
Washington D.C.  
Sir.

I have the honor to report  
an act of hostility on the part  
of His Excellency, the Viceroy  
of the Two Chinas (Chang  
Chih-tung), which merits  
the corrective action of the  
combined Powers of the West;  
as it practically excludes  
all foreign ships of large tonnage  
from access to the Port of  
Canton, and from participation  
in its commerce.

In my dispatch No. 90, dated November 13, 1885, to which reference is respectfully made, for a proper statement of facts up to that date, in regard to destructions in Pearl or Canton river, I inclosed, marked  $\frac{1}{3}$ , Copy of a dispatch, that was prepared by myself and adopted by the seven Consuls at Canton, and sent to His Excellency the Viceroy.

Since that time the commercial treaty between China and France has been completed and signed; and considerable progress has been made by the Boundary Commissioners of the two Countries in establishing the boundary line between China and Tonquin; and all indications have been of a pacific character.



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No reply whatever has been received by any of the Consuls to the identical dispatch to the Viceroy, but river navigation rested quietly until the present month; so far as actual operations were concerned; although the Viceroy had in the meantime represented to the Empress (and Emperor) and the Grand Council at Peking that the importance and value of the defensive works along and in the Canton river are such as to make it desirable that the river obstructions on the northern or ship channel between Canton and the sea should be included in the permanent defenses of the Empire, and so maintained.

It has come to my knowledge that the Viceroy's suggestion received Imperial sanction and approval; and that fact was communicated by the "Fung Li Yamen", or Foreign Office, to the British, and, perhaps, to all of the Legations at Peking, in May or June of this year.

The Meantime nature had asserted supremacy in the matter, by the action of the water upon the stone and pile obstructions that were placed in the ship-channel (Southern channel) of the river in August 1884 and during the last half of that year. By careful examination, in May and June 1886, by officers of American and British war-ships, it was found that the pressure of the water upon the center of the channel, caused by the stone and pile obstructions on the marshy sides of the main channel, had deepened the water in the center of the channel, by a scouring process; and that the main channel could be cleared of obstructions, in less than one day, at a cost of not to exceed one thousand dollars.

The British and American Legations were duly informed on the facts in May and June of this year.

3

becoming the Viceroy's determined  
 anti-foreign purpose; and the  
 injury his reputation and influence  
 would sustain when a knowledge  
 of the flimsy nature of his mis-  
 defenses in the forms of detection  
 would reach the Throne or  
 Imperial Government, I took  
 the liberty, in a dispatch to the Legation  
 at Peking, dated June 9<sup>th</sup> 1886,  
 to express solicitude that unless  
 something was soon done to defeat  
 the Viceroy's purpose, foreign ships  
 would not be allowed above Whampoa,  
 eleven miles from Canton, as that  
 would be the place for Boston House  
 business, with the ship-channel closed.  
 I also communicated my fears  
 to the British Consul, at Canton,  
 that the Viceroy would soon restore  
 the new obstructions in the South  
 Channel, in rear of Whampoa;  
 and the British Vice Consul there  
 was enjoined to watch any movement  
 of that nature, and report facts.

Through that trustworthy medium of information, daily reports have been received for a week past that large numbers of Chinese are employed in quarrying, loading, and unloading stone; and many junks are conveying to and discharging in the Southern or deep-water Ship Channel of the River, at the bridge in rear of Whampoa, stone, to turn the piles supporting the bridge; and that already there have probably been over one hundred junk-loads of stone so deposited since the 5<sup>th</sup> of July 1886 - or say within the past ten days.

Those engaged in the work say it will not stop until the stone deposits fill the channel up to the surface of the water at low tide.

The British Consul lost no time in protesting against such an

5

At the same time I sent to His Excellency the Viceroy, as per Copy hereto appended, marked  $\frac{1}{A}$ , a respectful remonstrance against the destruction of a great natural highway of Commerce in a time of peace, as such an act could not fail to be regarded unfriendly and unnecessary.

The British, United States, German, and French Consuls, immediately telegraphed their respective Legations at Peking about repairs, removal of river obstructions; and also wrote dispatches to the Legation with full particulars.

With more information concerning the obstructive operations the British and American (U.S.) Consuls addressed His Excellency on the subject; and hereto appended, marked  $\frac{2}{B}$ , is copy of my dispatch of 13<sup>th</sup> inst to the Viceroy; which was accompanied by compilation, in condensed form, of the principle of international law and Comity on the subject from authentic sources.

8/

I infer there is, or has been, at Peking, a lack of harmony or union of purpose among the foreign Legations, as there was great difficulty or delay in getting the German Consul (Dr. von Möllendorff), who was in Canton last year, (now at Manila), to co-operate with other Consuls as fully stated in my No. 90, of November 13<sup>th</sup> 1885; and as the present Acting German Consul (Mr. Seidel), at Canton, although personally desirous to co-operate with his colleagues in resisting or preventing these outrages against foreign Commerce, does not feel at liberty, under his instructions, to meddle with the matter.

It is surmised that German diplomacy is not to be encumbered with any missionary troubles, or any controversies, while competing for benefits in the forms of gun-contracts, War-ships, railway contracts, &c. &c. The German Minister is the "suzerain" of Legation.

9

Since the death of Sir Harry Parkes, the British Legation, until the recent arrival of the new British Minister, has been in charge of the Secretary of Legation, Mr O'Connor, now transferred to Washington.

The United States Legation, during Minister Denby's recent tour among the Consulates, however ably conducted, lacked the influence of its official head among Chinese officials, doubtless, to a certain degree.

The French Legation, probably, has not had time to re-establish affectionate relations with Chinese officials; if one can make an inference from the fact that H.E. the Viceroy at Canton has declined to have any interview with either of the three French Consuls who have been in Canton within the past year.

And, this, if the German Minister has maintained an

10

attitude of indifference in regard to these river obstructions, it is easy to understand how the Chinese officials would take advantage of an apparent lack of unanimity of purpose on the part of the Legations, which I am led to believe reports, as the will or purpose of the Minister (Mr. von Brandt) of Germany is somewhat reflected by the action of two Acting German Consuls at Canton, in 1885, and in 1886.

It is well known that the German Charge d'Affaires, who, in the absence of the Minister to Europe, objected to these river obstructions in 1884 when created as defensive measures, was summarily rebuffed and displaced for his indignation.

I state these points, in order that you may have a full view of the field; and to add the general statement - that while Chinese officials always seem inclined to respect the firm demands of United Legations and Consuls, they delight in the differences of foreign officials and any lack of unity in their demands.



It should be stated that the two water-ways between Canton and the sea are divided or separated by large islands; and the southern or deep-water channel was good enough for ships drawing fifteen to seventeen feet of water at high tide, or about eleven feet at low tide, and may be spoken of as the "Ship-Channel", while the northern channel is narrower and more shallow, with only about six feet of water on the "Salt Flat" (four miles below Canton), at low tide, and not more than  $11\frac{1}{2}$  or twelve feet at highest spring tide; and is much crowded by junks, so that it should be designated as the "Junk-Channel". The two Channels, or water-ways merge in the wide and deep water about thirteen miles below Canton.

Yours, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour

U.S. Consul.

Copy.

Consulate of the United States of America.

July 11<sup>th</sup> 1886.

To His Excellency

"Chang"

Viceroy of the Two Guangs

Sir;

The American Consul has the honor to respectfully remonstrate against the permanent injury that is being inflicted upon foreign (as well as domestic) commerce, by depositing many junk loads of stone in the south channel of the River between Canton and the sea, and increasing piles and other obstructions to navigation, in a time of peace, when China and all foreign Nations and Governments are engaged in inter-national commerce, as such an act as the destruction of a great natural highway of commerce can not fail to be regarded ~~as~~ an unfriendly, as well as an unnecessary act.

The American Consul avails himself of this opportunity to renew assurances of highest esteem, with compliments and cord.

Charles Seymour,  
Consul of the United States of America  
and Vice Consul.

Copy

Consulate of the United States of America  
Canton, July 13<sup>th</sup> 1888.

To His Excellency,

"Chang",

Viceroy of the Two Luangs.

Sir:

The American Consul has the honor respectfully call Your Excellency's attention to the clearly fixed and well-established principle of international law and comity, in regard to preservation of navigable waters & ports for foreign commerce, as found in the published diplomatic correspondence between the Governments of Western Nations; and plainly revealed in standard publications of reference and guidance in use among all civilized Governments of the West; and as applied, recognized, and enforced, between the British and American Governments, especially in the case of the remonstrance made in A.D. 1861, by the British Government, against permanent injury to the Southern ports of Charleston and Savannah, the United States of America; which it was alleged might result from deposits of stone and wrecks of boats in those ports and in the waters leading thereto, to prevent importations of munitions of war and other supplies, and to prevent the exportation of Cotton and other Southern products, pending the rebellion or Civil War in that country.

If Your Excellency will carefully examine and consider the matter by the light of actual events; and comprehend the grave responsibility of doing permanent injury to the ship-channel between Canton and the Sea, by depositing therein numerous junk-loads of stone during a time of peace, and thus depriving foreign ships of large tonnage from approaching Canton, the great Commercial Metropolis of Southern China; and in disregard, if not defiance of the interests, rights, and laudable desires of foreign Nations and Governments; Your Excellency may perhaps be persuaded to discontinue acts, which are deemed unfriendly and injurious to Nations between which and China exist amicable relations.

Such injury to the navigation of a natural highway of Commerce would not be tolerated for a moment among and between Western Powers in times of peace; and unless it is the determined purpose to exclude foreign ships from participation in the Commerce of Canton, the serious obstructions now being deposited in the ship-channel of the River should be discontinued; as they are doing injury to important interests that are entitled to consideration.

3

The American Consul respectfully asks Your Excellency to notice that when the British Government manifested against the Government of the United States America for depositing obstructions in the Southern ports and waters of the latter, the American Secretary promptly explained and promised that such obstructions were merely for a temporary purpose, and to meet pressing and urgent necessity, and that their removal would immediately follow the restoration of peace.

In the last great Franco-Prussian War in Europe, some of the North German ports were, temporarily, and merely as a defensive measure, locked up, or rendered unapproachable; but with the return of peace, those obstructions were removed.

Your Excellency is respectfully asked to peruse the inclosed extracts from books on inter-national law, which the American Consul will be glad to send for perusal, if desired; as these statements refer particularly to the case mentioned between Great Britain and the United States of America, as an example of law and justice.

With renewed assurances of highest esteem the American Consul sends Compliments and Care.

Charles Seymour  
Consul of the United States of America.

copy to Seymour  
J. D. R. Sep 1886

No. 107

D. St Clair

SEP 16 1886

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

July 17 1886

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. James D. Porter,  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

The War tax on fire-crackers  
in 1885.

SYNOPSIS.



No. 107

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

July 17 1886

Mr. James D. Potter.

Asst. Sec. of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir

I have the honor to request that  
a copy of this dispatch may be sent to the  
Collector of Customs at New York, in order  
that some facts in regard to the Chinese  
war-tax on fire-crackers may be known  
at the New York Custom House.

In January, 1885 the Chinese authorities  
at Canton, with a determination to raise  
money from all available sources, levied  
a special war-tax on fire-crackers,  
equivalent to about five per cent  
ad valorem, but in specific terms.

It was abandoned in February 1886.

Discrepancies appeared in the invoices of fire-crackers, ranging from about 2½ to 5 per cent under item of War-tax.

As the Chinese manufacturers and merchants were sorely taxed and taxed upon in various forms, they finally shook off this tax, which was never equally or evenly collected; as a few of the larger and more wealthy and influential manufacturers and dealers, who were paying large tribute to the Authorities through their shops, guilds, &c. &c., provided upon the tax-collector's Authority to accept lump or round sums, or half tax, or compromise in some way.

Hence arose disparities in itemizing war-tax in invoices. This is the explanation.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul



ac  
per 18/88

Mr. Ford

No. 108

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

August 4 1888

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.

TO

Hon. James D. Porter,  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Commercial information.

duplicate filed  
for publication 7.

SYNOPSIS.

Annual report on Commerce  
of Canton and Southern China  
in duplicate.

No. 108

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

August 4<sup>th</sup> 1886

Mr. James D. Potter.

Asst. Sec. of State.

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to supply  
some items of Commercial information  
from this Consular District, which  
embraces the two Southern Provinces  
of Kwang-tung and Kwang-ki,  
in the Empire of China; where no  
data, records, statistics, or reports  
are to be found, showing the nature and  
magnitude of the commerce of nearly  
thirty millions of inhabitants; who  
are remarkable for their industry,  
and possess productive soil, and abundant  
facilities, for domestic and foreign Commerce.

2

The Province of Kwang-tung has a Coast-line of about one thousand miles; and numerous water-ways, which are navigable for hundreds of miles; and thus Canton is a favored trade-center.

Why trade-statistics are not complete.  
 The only records that are kept of the Commerce of this important port, or of other ports in the Chinese Empire, are those of the "Imperial Maritime Customs of China"; which is probably the most perfectly organized and best conducted Civil Service in the World; but as it only looks after the imports and exports by foreign ships; and as there is no record kept anywhere, that shows the imports and exports by native craft or junks; the Commercial Statistics of Chinese ports are incomplete, and reveal only a portion of the Commerce between the various ports of China, or between China and other countries.

## Native Junks versus Foreign Ships.

On this point, the foremost able and accurate Commissioner of Customs at Canton, Alfred E. Hissinley, Esquire, in the first paragraph of his "Trade Report" for 1885, says - "It has been frequently pointed out that the merchandise coming within the cognizance of this Office - that is, the merchandise carried by foreign vessels - forms but a fraction of the trade of Canton, the bulk being monopolized by the large fleets of junks regularly running between this port and Hongkong, Macao, and the neighboring ports on the Coast."

Besides the ordinary export-duty and import-duty at the Custom Houses of both systems of collecting revenue (the "Imperial Maritime" <sup>system</sup> and management of foreign officials; and the "Native" system, which farms out the various revenue-districts to Chinese contractors.); there were imposed special taxes, or "likin" dues, on many commodities; which were not easily evaded at the "Imperial" or foreign Custom House, as at the "Native" Contractors' Collection Offices; for the junks sought routes through creeks which could not always be carefully guarded.

Merchants have verified to me the  
 surprising statement of the "Customs  
 Trade Report", which says - "many"  
 "articles which would otherwise have been"  
 "purchased at Canton, and sent through"  
 "this Office to Hong Kong for transshipment"  
 "abroad, have, during the past year been"  
 "bought in the first instance at Hong Kong,"  
 "or, if bought here, have been settled for"  
 "delivery in Hong Kong, sellers in some"  
 "Cases - e.g., Common Teas - even finding"  
 "it cheaper to ship the goods by junk to"  
 "Hong Kong, and to store them there for a"  
 "week or ten days pending the departure"  
 "of the carrying vessel, than to pay both"  
 "tariff-duty and Li'Kin-tax. To this"  
 "fact is attributable in part the diminished"  
 "Export shown in our statistics of Carrying"  
 "preserves, matting, and fire-crackers."

A junk-strike is now in full  
 force and operation, to resist some  
 new demands upon the junk-traffic;  
 and without the slightest appearance of  
 any excitement or turmoil, the fleets  
 of junks in the Canton, Hong Kong, and Macao  
 triangle, quietly suspend business, and tie up

## Obstructions to Navigation.

S

While this double or duplex plan of collecting revenue is in operation, viz: by employing foreigners to collect duty on merchandise imported and exported by foreign vessels, and ~~steamships~~, a steam boat; and by selling out to Chinese Contractors the Collection District for merchandise imported and exported by native junks; the anti-foreign Policy of these Two Powers has adopted a policy which practically bars out foreign ships of large tonnage from approaching nearer to Canton than Whampoa anchorage, eleven miles below Canton.

This is being done by destroying the Southern or deep-water Ship-Channel between Canton and the Sea; and leaving open only the shallow and narrow junk-Channel, which, at the "Shes Flats", a few miles below Canton, has only six feet of water at low tide, and only about 11½ feet at high tide.

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In a time of peace, when other Nations are expending millions of dollars to improve navigation of harbors and rivers for Commerce, the Chinese Authorities at Canton have recently thrown hundreds of junk-loads of stone, and driven piles to hold these deposits of stone in place, <sup>to obstruct and destroy the ship channel of the River;</sup> and neither Consular or Diplomatic remonstrance has yet been able to stop what is clearly forbidden by international law and comity; and prejudicial to the commercial interests of foreign Nations; and detrimental to the interests of the most important port of Southern China. In the midst of such conditions and influences, Commerce seems to be cast away from consideration; in the apparent effort to exclude foreigners from participation in its benefits at Canton.

Not only has the Southern or Depuante  
 Ship-Channel between Canton and  
 the sea been closed by obstructions  
 since the Autumn of 1884 (soon  
 after hostilities commenced between  
 France and China); and those  
 obstructions extensively increased  
 during July 1886; but the Northern  
 or narrower and more shallow junk-  
 Channel has become extremely difficult  
 to navigate by foreign steamships,  
 and vessels of lighter draught, in  
 consequence of large fleets of "Sut-jin"  
 being allowed to rendezvous and anchor  
 at the "Salt Flats", a few miles below  
 Canton, and obstruct the fairway  
 with chains and ropes across  
 the Channel, to such an extent  
 as to endanger foreign steamships;  
 which are sometimes compelled  
 to maintain considerable speed  
 for steerage, when going with  
 the wind, current, and tide.  
 The U.S.S. "Albatross" was thus jeopardized  
 and seriously inconvenienced, while entering and  
 leaving the port of Canton, on 20<sup>th</sup> March  
 and 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1886, <sup>when</sup> in charge of Chinese licensed pilots.



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If complaint is made to the Chinese  
 Authorities that the fairway of the junk-channel  
 is obstructed by the cables of junks crossing the  
 Channel, some one from the Salt  
 Commissioners' Yamen, is sent to investigate  
 matters; and a few weeks later the Viceroy  
 informs the Complaining Consulate that the  
 Salt-junks are in their proper places;  
 and the Consulate is requested to notify  
 the hundreds of steamships or frigates which  
 to adopt less speed while passing  
 through this crowded Channel.

Unjust Discrimination. The foreign Consulate at Canton  
 has this summer been requested  
 to give, but have denied it their duty  
 to withhold; their assent to proposed new  
 "Harbor Regulations"; which impose  
 many restrictions upon foreign ships  
 that are not imposed on native vessels;  
 and which make no provision for keeping  
 the fairway open in the only available  
 Channel, which is strictly a junk-channel.  
 One of those restrictions prohibits  
 foreign ships from bringing kerosene  
 nearer to Canton than one mile below Whampoa  
 or about twelve miles below Canton;

While Chinese junks come into the Harbor of Canton, opposite the city and Shamian; and native cargo boats, loaded with that commodity, enter the British Wharves, and go into the smaller canals of the City, without any hindrance. Thus under the pretext of protecting Canton from destruction by a great conflagration of Kerosene, the transportation of that article is exclusively monopolized by the native junks; while by this means the entire importations of Kerosene are treated as being in Chinese hands, and therefore subject to any special "likin-tax" the Chinese Authorities see fit to impose, or authorize to be imposed, when selling or forwarding to Chinese Contractors the native collection-districts for duty and "likin", or special taxes; not only between the sea-board or Coast ports and Canton; but between Canton and the interior.

10

## Traffic with the Interior.

The importance of securing better arrangements for sending needed foreign commodities into the interior, and into the two Southern Provinces of Kwang-Si and Kwangtung from Canton & Peking, by well-established trade-routes, cannot be fully appreciated, but if the system of "Transit-Lanes" for foreign articles of merchandise are sent to the interior markets and places of consumption were fairly in operation, there would follow largely increased demand for many kinds of imported merchandise; but such is not the case, as has been clearly demonstrated by negotiations during the present year between the Legations and Imperial Government at Peking, and between the Consuls and the Viceroy of the Province of Kwangtung and Kwang-Si at Canton - the measures agreed to at Peking for better facilities in regard to interior traffic having been utterly ignored by the Viceroy and other Chinese Officials at Canton.

The Viceroy insists upon his right  
 to locate "likin" stations where  
 he deems them desirable; and to  
 change their locations, from  
 time to time, as the operations  
 or routes of traffic may demand;  
 and declines to designate their  
 locations; or to state their  
 number, or the aggregate of  
 "likin" taxes, between any two  
 given points; and thus defeats  
 the arrangements agreed upon  
 at Peking to facilitate traffic in  
 foreign commodities between  
 the sea-coast and the interior;  
 notwithstanding the Legation  
 sent out to the various provinces  
 Circular notices of what seemed  
 a very desirable improvement  
 on the system in actual  
 operation; which prevents any  
 one from finding out what will  
 be exacted on any trade-route  
 as "likin"-tax, or other special tax,  
 on foreign shipments to the interior.

12

In some of the other Provinces of the Chinese Empire where the ruling Authorities are less intensely anti-foreign in feeling and policy, lists of the "li" stations, and amounts of "li" required at stations on routes between the Treaty Ports and specified points in the interior, have been supplied and published; but there seems to be no means by which Viceroy in their respective Provinces are or can be compelled to abide by any agreement or plan adopted by the Tsung-li Yamén (~~Foreign Office~~) and Legations at Peking. It will be remembered that about one year ago, an eminent Chinese Statesman named "Tso," died; and left, as his last counsel and advice to his devoted Countrymen, certain recommendations concerning the National defenses, mining, railway, and educational enterprises; which attracted much attention, not only in China, but throughout the World; as an indication of progressive ideas from a man who had been noted for conservatism, as well as for wisdom, patriotism, and courage.

Mineral  
Enterprises

Li

Mining enterprises are receiving much attention in various parts of the Chinese Empire; and as valuable mines are known to exist in the Southern Provinces, a "Board of Mines" has been established by the Chinese authorities at Canton; to promote mining operations for silver, copper, tin, iron, &c.

The "Board of Mines" is composed of high officials of the Province of Kwang-tung; whose published "Mining Regulations" provide for abundant opportunities to "squeeze" the greater portion of the profits of any successful mining enterprises into the Mandarin's coffers.

At the very outset it is distinctly and clearly announced in the "Mining Regulations", and in the Charter and Prospectus of every company organized for mining business, that foreigners and native converts to Christianity are prohibited from owning any share or stock in any such "Mining company".

This point is carefully guarded by a requisition, that, before any privileged right is obtained for mining operations, "petitioners desiring to acquire such" "franchises shall be required to affirm"

14

"that they are not bound to"  
"Christianity, and that no foreigners"  
"will be permitted by them to hold shares"  
"in the proposed mines."

If objections are urged, by people in the vicinity of sites selected for mining operations, that tombs, or dwellings, or geomantic influences, will be destroyed or disturbed; and if these objections are found to be valid, the place selected must be abandoned, and a site elsewhere selected.

If a person becomes possessed of a mine of exceeding richness which requires increased taxes, the matter will be represented in the proper quarter, and a recognition be made by conferring on the owner of the mine an official title.

Should a mine in any particular district prove to be of extraordinary richness and value, the fact will be reported to the Emperor, that a reward may be conferred on the Magistrate of the district. These are some of the mining conditions.

It is well known the iron mines of the Northern Province of Shansi have been operated for over a thousand years.

15

The chief benefits to be derived by foreigners, from the inauguration of these Chinese mining enterprises, will be in supplying the professional talent required for practical and judicious management of mining operations; and in supplying the requisite machinery for developing the mining interests and business.

A qualified and thoroughly competent Superintendent or Engineer of a well-organized Company of native Capitalists, if rightly commended to their confidence, will not be likely to find his services valued at less than fifty thousand dollars per annum; with liberal allowance for assistants and servants.

Such a man should be able to control the supply or choice of machinery for use in the mines.

This fact suggests that both talent and skill should be represented in the applicants for, or see Rand, the benefits to be derived by foreigners from Chinese mining enterprises and operations.



16

## Army and Navy, and Coast Defense.

Cost of \$30,000 per annum are paid at Canton <sup>by German</sup> for military instructors. Germany seems to have most favorably impressed the Chinese officials in regard to <sup>military</sup> ~~naval~~ matters; as seen in the employment of competent and experienced German officers, from the engineering, artillery, Cavalry, infantry, and torpedo branches of the German military service, to instruct <sup>at various points along the Coast of China between Canton & Tientsin</sup> the Chinese military forces, about War tactics and also in the purchase and use of German rifles, cannon, and other implements of war; as well as in the acquisition, by the Chinese Government, of formidable Warships from Germany, with Krupp's most powerful guns and projectiles. The Viceroy estimates the <sup>Chinese</sup> ~~Chinese~~ <sup>defenses</sup> ~~defenses~~ <sup>will cost</sup> ~~will cost~~ <sup>five millions of dollars</sup> ~~five millions of dollars~~ Railways.

It is announced that the Imperial consent has been granted for the construction of the experimental line of railway, on the route by which the Conquering Tartars entered China - a short line only, in the Northwest.

Several wealthy and influential Syndicates from the Western Nations have already sought Chinese favor in regard to the contemplated railway enterprise in China.

17

China cannot much longer postpone the introduction of railways, which are needed for army transportation, since her frontier troubles demand quicker concentration of military forces than can be secured by former facilities; but, with the construction and operation of railways, the Chinese fear there will be increase of foreigners, which is a serious objection with the Chinese, and may be regarded as second only to their objection against molesting tombs of past generations.

In the meantime, the official magistrates of China are withholding the grand prize in the railway lottery or scheme; and flourishing them out of the reach of supplicating foreigners or foreign supplicants; with an evident enjoyment of something akin to the sport of youth, who compel certain pets to strike attitudes, "speak louder", and "roll over", before the tid-bits are dispensed to the braying and obsequious animals.

18/

One of the strong European Competitors for these Chinese prizes is credited with having already distanced all rivals, by throwing on board missionaries and native converts to Christianity; and by consenting to the permanent obstructions of navigable rivers, for the exclusion of foreign ships from treaty ports; but, before winning the coveted prizes, possibly a further concession may have to be made, to lubricate the internal machinery. Who knows but it may be in favor of Chinese ports!

Currency and Exchange Seriously obstructing imports of foreign commodities into China.

A serious obstacle to importations of foreign commodities into China, is the present condition of the Exchange, based on the Silver Currency, which has, for the past two or three years, undergone such depreciation in China, and other Asiatic Countries, including India and Japan, with intermediate and less important Countries of the East, as to require nearly four Silver Dollars here to equal three gold Dollars <sup>there</sup> in Europe or America.

19

Exports from China to Europe and America are somewhat stimulated or encouraged by the premium on gold, or on drafts, or bills of exchange, on gold-paying countries, against shipments to the European and American markets; as the purchasing power of silver in these silver-currency countries is, as yet, imperceptibly affected by the rates of exchange between China and foreign countries.

With no desire to offer any comments on financial or monetary problems, these facts are recorded as pertinent to commerce; and worthy of consideration and study.

An interesting feature of the increasing disparity between gold and silver in China (and in other Asiatic countries), is the relation sustained or existing between lenders and borrowers of money, or debtor and creditor, since the assets of banking corporations in the East, owned by European capitalists, whose capital has been transferred from Europe to Asia, have been shrinking, on the basis of gold, faster than interest accumulates.

20

And, too, Depositors in Banks find that their five per cent interest on "fixed deposits," for the past four years, scarcely covers the depreciation in the value of the sum originally deposited, if convertible or converted into gold in Europe or America.

And, by the same cause, a debt incurred four years ago for one hundred silver dollars, which was then the product of ninety dollars in gold, in China, can now be cancelled by the payment of one hundred silver dollars, which can be bought now for seventy five dollars in gold, in Europe or American bills of exchange, payable in gold.

The surplus or difference of fifteen dollars in gold, which will buy twenty silver dollars, pays four years interest at five per cent and the Creditor finds his income a myth.

These complications are thus interfering with commercial operations; and should be taken into consideration by Americans and Europeans who contemplate shipments to China.

21

Two New Ports on Southern Frontier, under Treaty, with  
of June 1885, between China and France.

Under the Treaty of June 1885 between China and France, provision was made for the establishment of two trading marts on the Southern frontier of China. One of those trading marts is to be behind Langson, and the other behind Laokai; and from and through these two frontier trading marts France contemplates diverting trade from the two Southern Provinces of Kwang-Si and Yunnan, which have<sup>been</sup> tributary to Kwang-tung Province, and to Canton as the chief market and port, as well as as financial center of the South. It should also be noted that the Treaty, besides giving France the opportunity to tap the Southern Provinces of China, also permits and stipulates that their Chinese customs tariff shall be more favorable or lower than at the Treaty ports of the Coast. Whether France will succeed in diverting trade through Yunnan, and away from Chinese routes, time only can determine.

22

## The Flood of 1885, and its Effects.

The terrible inundation of June and July, 1885, in the Province of Kwang-tung, which was the severest flood known in Southern China during the past half century, was described in my dispatches to the Department, numbered 79, dated June 17<sup>th</sup> 1885; and 83, dated July 29, 1885; but its effects were serious upon rice crops, and food supplies generally; and also upon the production of silk, as the dikes broke their banks, and inundated large tracts of country, extending hundreds of miles; carrying away crops, soil, and buildings; and destroying over 60,000 lives.

The demonstrations of practical benevolence among natives and foreigners, elicited by the wide-spread calamity, reflect honor and credit upon the generous donors of money, food, clothing, and necessary supplies for many thousands of sufferers, whose losses and deprivations are unnumbered, and heroically endured, under circumstances which might have crushed out all hope or expectation of recovery in any people.

## Guilds.

The thoroughness of the organization of Guilds, and their resources, efficiency, and promptness of action in an emergency, were manifested during the efforts to gather and send relief to the distressed people of the inundated districts of Northern China in July 1885. These guilds extend through and embrace every branch of commerce, and every department of industry; and are maintained and conducted without any clutter or friction. The powers which guide their operations are invisible and silent; but when the occasion calls for prompt and decisive action, all of the wheels in the machinery of the guild concerned stop or move, as if an electric touch of some controlling force had simultaneously communicated to every member of the guild an edict, which is received and obeyed with utmost obedience, as if each one's existence depended upon the combined action of all.



Differences growing out of business transactions are adjusted by the arbitration or ruling of the Guild to which its members belong; and resistance against the demands of outsiders is made effective, (if a reasonable basis exists for resistance) by the individual who is assailed handing his case over to the Guild of which he is a member, and acting under the advice of the chosen rulers of the Guild.

The Mandarins find it difficult sometimes to dictate harsh terms against the Guild combinations; for it is no easy matter to force them to do what they disapprove.

Any expense or loss sustained by any member of a trade-guild in resisting what he deems an unjust demand, is defrayed out of the treasury of that Guild, if he obeys the rules of the Guild, and makes no moribund settlement without the sanction of those in control of the Guild.

Guilds, therefore, become formidable and necessary organizations, in a country where law is the caprice of Mandarins; and where the individual would be powerless, if compelled alone to guard his interests.

### Foreigners Dependent on Natives!

Foreign ~~merchants~~ in China, with millions of dollars of Capital at their command, and fleets of ships in waiting for Cargoes of Chinese products destined to European and American markets, have never yet been able to fix the price of these Chinese products; but have ever and always been compelled to submit to the prices and terms of the tea-guilds, and silk-guilds, and junk-guilds; and other guilds; and do their business in China through <sup>native</sup> Compradors, and comply with Chinese arrangements generally; and all because of the inability of foreign merchants and Capitalists to cope with, or override, or break down, the influence of the tea-trade and other guilds of China.

Such has been the experience of all engaged in commerce in China for the past Century.

The largest and wealthiest banking institutions, established by European Capitalists, in China; and along the Chinese Coast, are not able to dispense with Chinese Compradors; though whose hands all money must pass, notwithstanding an abundance of foreign banks are at hand.

U

## Trade Items

Business at Canton has revived wonderfully, during the last half of 1885, and the first half of 1886; and Commerce seems to be recovering from the effects of the Franco-Chinese War.

Imports.

Opium continues to be an important item. Some estimate of the extent of the traffic in Opium at and near Canton may be formed from the fact that the contract, in franchise, or monopoly, of collecting the "likin" or excise and forwarded opium in this Province of Kwang-tung, is farmed out or sold by the Auctioneer & native Contractors, who pay, into the Treasury of the Province, the sum of 850,000 Taels = \$1,250,000.00, annually, on a five years contract; and find the Contractor binds themselves to defray all expenses for salaries, for steam Quisers, and for primitive service generally, which amount to about \$350,000.00; amounting in all to about \$1,600,000.00 per annum, which is exclusive of duty on Opium, & taking in only the "likin" of about 55 Taels per picul of 133 1/3 lbs, or about 62 cents per pound of "likin".

As the "likin" contractors on Opium are supposed to find profit in their monopoly, it must be derived from "likin" on an excess of 20,000 piculs (or 1333 tons); whereas only one third of that amount was reported at the Chinese Foreign Customs, Kwang-tung Province during 1885.

27

Canton received, in 1885, Cotton yarn,  
to the value of about \$1,700,000;  
raw cotton (mostly from India) \$1,000,000;  
and cotton goods, valued at \$900,000.  
Woolen <sup>manufactured</sup> goods, valued at over \$1,000,000.  
American Kerosene, valued at 250,000.  
American Flour " " 225,000  
American Sugar " " 100,000

Exports  
Canton's leading exports were, in 1885:  
Raw silk, valued at \$5,200,000  
To silk goods " " 5,800,000  
Fine Ceramics " " 1,200,000  
Mattings " " 375,000  
Carpets and buttons (to India) 540,000  
Pearls, and Limestone 250,000

Chinese Manufactures.  
The Chinese, throughout the Empire,  
seem to be increasing their manufactures.  
Especially, it is noticeable in the  
steady increase of importations of  
raw cotton, cotton yarn and thread;  
which rose in 1885 to \$2,000,000, for  
raw cotton; and \$11,806,818 for cotton yarn and thread;  
or about \$14,000,000 for raw cotton, yarn, and thread,  
which were used in Chinese manufactures.  
Of these \$2,000,000 of raw cotton, Canton received one half.

257

## Freights

During the past year Ocean freight has been very low. Sailing ships have taken Chinese cargoes from Hong Kong to New York at fifteen to twenty shillings sterling (£ 3.75 to \$5.00) per ton of 40 Cubic feet.

Steamships continually take freight from Chinese ports to New York or Hamburg, via London, at less freight than is charged for delivery in London, notwithstanding the transshipment in London and Atlantic freight, or the freight to the German port, adding much to the expenses of the freight for the carrier. However, this is a part of the combined scheme of "Confederate Steamship Companies" to break down competition. It necessarily affects trans-Atlantic transportation interests in America; and cripples American ship-owners, seeking direct trade between China and America.

Sam. Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
Charles Seymour  
McCombs

One inclosure - }  
viz: }  
Copy of this dispatch }

*109*

No. 109

*is paid  
Oct 18. 86*

OCT 6 1886

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

*Mr. Seymour*

*August 18<sup>th</sup> 1886*

*To Department of State.*

*To Treasury  
Oct 16/86*

SUBJECT:

*Ac Mtg No. 81, and reply thereto, about Invoices.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

*Specifications required by Treasury  
Department, and compliance therewith.  
Explanation of difficulties in ascertaining  
"Charges" on various items of Mtg in Invoices.*

No. 109

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

August 18<sup>th</sup> 1886

The Honorable

James D. Porter

Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

I have the honor to acknowledge  
having received from the Department of  
State dispatch numbered 81, dated  
June 19, 1886, in regard to specifications  
of prices and items in Invoices certified  
at this Consulate.

I have frequently and carefully looked  
into these matters with special reference  
to ascertaining as to amounts and values  
of Merchandise covered by certified Invoices,  
and have never yet been able to discover  
any disagreement or discrepancy between  
them and the current records of actual  
business transactions between the Canton  
Merchants and the Consignees or purchasers  
in the United States.



I am fully persuaded that the Canton  
shoppers would be perfectly willing to  
duplicate any shipment of merchandise  
of the same quantity and invoiced value  
certified at this Consulate.

But, owing to the peculiar and ridiculous  
regulations or arrangements of the Chinese  
authorities, in regard to modes of levying  
upon exports (as well as imports and products  
for use in China), it is exceedingly difficult  
to apportion the various items of charges upon  
numerous kinds or grades of merchandise; and  
therefore the merchants who prepare invoices,  
in conformity with the present act of Congress,  
which exempts charges and packings from  
duty, present a more truthful and accurate  
statement of actual net cost of merchandise  
invoiced and shipped to American Consignees  
or purchasers, by separating the charges from the  
sum total of the invoices, than if done item by item,  
with the net cost of each grade of goods specified.

The "export duty" on silk is 12 Taels, equal to about \$18.00, per picul of 133½ lbs., regardless of the fineness or coarseness of the goods; so that a picul of very fine silk handkerchiefs is subject to the same amount of export duty as a picul of very coarse handkerchiefs of one fifth of the value of the finer goods; and so with many other commodities.

Again, the complaint of the Acting Secretary of the Treasury was especially directed to those invoices of matting which gave "so many yards in gross," but "no prices are given".

I have overhauled the invoices certified during the present year, and pointed out to each firm the requirements of the U. S. Treasury Department; which will be complied with. The Merchants have always cheerfully thrown open their business records for inspection; and I have not been able to detect any attempt to defraud the United

4/

State Government by "blatantly"  
"and descriptively converted invoices"  
"authenticated at the Canton Consulate";  
and as that remark was made  
in connection with matching invoices,  
it seemed to refer particularly to  
those of Messrs. Russell & Company,  
whose business is not conducted  
on that plan.

It is not an easy  
matter to do a large business in  
China, through Chinese Compradors  
and traders, who have to be employed  
at every stage of preparation of goods  
for final shipment to foreign countries,  
and sort out and apportion the charges,  
(Commission, duties, taxes, taking water,  
Coolie-lie, transportation, packages,  
packing, &c. &c.) to each item of cargo  
in the invoices covered by many grades  
of goods; but I have the assurance  
that faithful and diligent endeavors  
will be made to comply with all of  
the requirements; to which I will  
also give my best attention.

And as this dispatch includes information which should reach the Treasury Department, I beg to add that since the Chinese authorities of Canton and the various trade firms and interests had a struggle which resulted in setting aside severe demands of the authorities that were enforced during A.D. 1885, under the head of "War taxes," a compromise has been agreed upon, which practically amounts to about five cents <sup>roll of</sup> per yard on average matting; and about two and a half cents per package (of 64 pieces) on fire crackers.

I mention these items as pertinent to the subject of this dispatch; and also to be taken into notice by the Treasury Department, in connection with the statements on these taxes in my dispatch No. 107, dated July 17<sup>th</sup> 1886, when all of the facts were unobtainable.

2

A severe contest of several months' duration is yet going on between the Chinese authorities and junk-owners, involving the imposition of new "lekin" charges on cargoes; and although the junks are tied up, and have ceased business, to resist the demands of the authorities, the result may affect the amount of "lekin" taxes on exports.

Sam. Br.

Govt. Administration

Charles. Seymour  
W. J. F. S.

110  
No. 110  
RECEIVED  
OCT 6 1886  
United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.  
Oct 18. 86  
Mr. Seymour  
To Treasury  
Oct 16  
August 19<sup>th</sup> 1886  
To Department of State.

SUBJECT:

"Le Kin" taxes on fire crackers.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

Requesting statements in No 109 about  
"Le Kin" tax on fire-crackers to be withheld  
from Treasury Department until authentic.

No. 100

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

His Honorable

James R. Porter

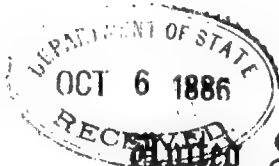
August 19<sup>th</sup> 1888

Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to  
request that the statements on  
fifth page of my dispatch No. 109,  
dated August 18<sup>th</sup> 1888, to the Department  
of State, may not be sent to the  
Treasury Department; as I  
find today there is some discrepancy  
in the statements of Chinese traders  
regarding the "lekin" tax on fire-  
crackers; and it will be necessary  
to authenticate and establish some  
of the statements before they can  
be received as trustworthy during  
pending controversy. I am, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
Charles Seymour  
Consul

No. 111



United States Consulate

at Canton, China.

Oct 18. 86

August 19<sup>th</sup> 1886

Shanghai

To Treasury  
To Out

To Department of State.

SUBJECT:

"No leek kin" or tax on fire-crackers.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

Request that the U. S. Treasury Department, and Collector of Customs at New York may be notified.



No.

111

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

the Honorable

James D. Foster

August 19<sup>th</sup> 1886

Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that in regard to the Canton "lee kin" tax on fire-crackers, (alluded to on fifth page of my No. 109, dated 18<sup>th</sup> instant, and also in No. 110, dated this day), which one of the Canton Shippers has insisted upon as an item of charges for exemption from U.S. duty, I have now, after much investigation, found that Messrs. Purdon & Co. should not have put such an item in their invoices since February 4<sup>th</sup> 1886, when the lee kin or tax was abolished as stated in my No. 107, dated July 17<sup>th</sup> 1886.

A deceitful and contentful Chinaman in the trade has permitted in lies on this point; but this afternoon I obtained proof that my dispatch No. 107, dated 17<sup>th</sup> ultimo, on this subject, was correct and reliable, and therefore it is necessary for Mr. Parker to prepare corrected notices in which "tax-taper", "taxer", or "leekin", on fire-crackers, shall be omitted since 4<sup>th</sup> February 1885.

Please notify the U.S. Treasury Department, and especially the collector of Customs at New York, of the contents of this dispatch.

Yours, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour  
M. Journal

No.

112

*By Order*

15

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

*Mr. Seymour*

*September 27<sup>th</sup> 1886*

*To Department of State.*

SUBJECT:

*Campbell*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

*Reply to Circular from Department  
of State dated August 4<sup>th</sup> 1886, and  
received this day (Sept 27. 1886) at Canton.*

*(Copied - November. 1886)*

No. 112



United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

September 27<sup>th</sup> 1886

The Honorable

James D. Tates

Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor, in compliance with the Department's Circular of August 4<sup>th</sup> 1886, to state, in regard to Camphor, that, as a commodity of Commerce, it is, in this vicinity, of little importance. In the Customs' Report.

At only one of the nineteen ports of China, where offices of the Imperial Maritime Customs are established, does Camphor appear among the items of report or traffic; and that single port is Tamsui, in Northern Formosa; and from the Customs Reports of that place it appears to have <sup>newly</sup> ceased as an item of report or traffic,  
(on)

on account of the Camphor forests  
on the hills of Formosa having  
been burned out by the Chinese,  
to acquire, by all possible means,  
as much territory as possible, and  
in order to compel the savages to  
withdraw. Forests of Camphor-trees  
do still exist further inland on the  
Island of Formosa, but as yet they  
are difficult of access. The Mountains  
retaliated by serious raids upon the  
Chinese between the mountains  
and the Coast. It is a matter of  
much uncertainty whether the Camphor  
forests of the Mountains of Formosa  
will escape destruction, by continuance  
of hostilities, which are probable as revenge

Am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour  
M. J. J. J.

No. 113

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

Mr. Seymour October 2<sup>nd</sup> 1886

To Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Transmitting Account, Return Vouchers  
for third Quarter of 1886

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

Canton, China  
October 2, 1886

Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul

Transmitting Account,  
Vouchers, Returns for  
3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 1886.

No. 113

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

The Honorable

*James H. Porter* *October 2nd 1886*  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir: I have the honor to transmit  
herewith Return, Account,  
and Vouchers, for Quarter ended  
September 30th 1886.

I am, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
Charles Seymour  
M. General

Enclosures - viz:  
1. Quarterly Account.  
2. Envelope containing receipts of Vouchers.  
3. Digest of Service Book.

Found in Divine Bureau files.  
March 1, 1887 - J.M.

No. 114, Affairs of D. D. *After joining*  
United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.  
*Signature*  
*RECEIVED*  
*3 1886*  
*Department of State*  
*Number 13-1886*  
*Mr. Seymour*  
*To Department of State.*

SUBJECT:

*Change of Interpreters*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

*Departure of Mr. Chin Poy Ho from Canton.*  
*Mr. Lo Tse Wai, a worthy Successor*



No. 114

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

The Honorable

*James D. Porter*

Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

March 13 1886

Sir:

I have the honor to inform  
you that the father of the  
~~present~~ was compelled to leave  
Canton on June 1<sup>st</sup> 1884 to take  
charge of the estate and business  
of his father, who died last Spring,  
while engaged in tin-mines at  
Perak, on the northern side of the  
Strait of Malacca; and as Mr "Chin  
Boo" was a very competent and  
excellent young man, and a desirable  
Interpreter, his necessary departure  
was deeply regretted; and the Office  
of Interpreter was reserved for him, if  
he found it for his interest to return to it,  
within a reasonable space of time.

Fortunately, neither of the Chinese ~~students~~ who had been educated in the United States of America was in ~~London~~ on a visit to his relatives when the Interpreter left for Peking, and at once entered upon the duties that had been satisfactorily performed by Mr "Chin Poy Woo", who has not returned.

The name of the person now acting as Interpreter (and since June 1, 1886) is Mr "Loo Tse Wai", who has relinquished the office he held in the torpedo service of the Chinese Government at Tientsin, where he enjoyed the favor of His Excellency, "Li Hung Chang", Viceroy of the North China Province of Chihli to such an extent as to be honored by the Imperial Government with the button of the 5<sup>th</sup> degree, which is regarded as a high honor for a young man, as only a few of the notable scholars and officials attain to the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree, or two degrees above 3<sup>rd</sup> degree. There are 9 degrees - the 9<sup>th</sup> being the lowest conferred.

3

Mr. Lo Tsu Whe, although a native of Kuang-tung Province, by residence in Northern China and official service at Tientsin, speaks the Mandarin or official dialect of China more fluently and accurately <sup>than</sup> Mr. Chiu Poy Hoo, or any person whose Chinese education has been derived only in Southern China, and is therefore well qualified to converse with Chinese officials.

From my experience and observation, I feel justified in commending these young Chinese, who were students in our American Schools and Colleges, as Interpreters at the United States Consulate in China, in preference to the literary natives who have always resided in China, and are so accustomed to and familiar with Asiatic duplicity, intrigue, deception, and venality, as to be imbued with moral obtuseness and corruption, and utterly unreliable as to honor, fidelity and rectitude, in the presence of opportunities to gain money or preferment.

117  
With much confidence in the  
ability of Mr "Lo Tse Wha",  
and with the belief that he will  
be a valuable Interpreter and  
medium of communication between  
the Consul and Chinese officials,  
I respectfully nominate him  
as Interpreter at this Consulate.

I am, Sir,  
Yours Obedient Servant,

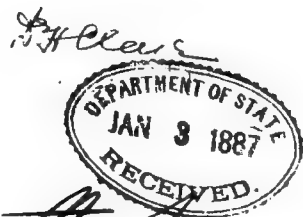
Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul.

Approved  
J. P. Kennedy  
Consul General

No. 115



United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.



M. Seymour

Number 13-1886

To Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Growth of Kerosene traffic.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

Sales of the Kerosene monopoly

*Handwritten initials or signature*

(Copied - January - 1887).

No.

115

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

The Honorable

James D. Porter.

Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

November 13<sup>th</sup> 1886

Sir:

I have the honor to  
state that recent disclosures in  
regard to the sales by the Chinese  
Authorities of the Kerosene monopoly  
in this Province of Kwangtung  
tend to throw some light upon  
the question touching the extent  
and magnitude of the importation  
of and traffic in American  
Kerosene, respecting which  
there are now absolutely no  
data or statistics, as the  
transportation of this article  
is restricted to native junks,  
and the duty and license tax thereon  
(488)

2/

collected by native speculators, who buy the monopoly of collecting duty and lee kin on kerosene, and endeavor to keep all particulars from the public.

In 1882 the lee kin tax imposed on kerosene imported into the Province of Kwangtung was forty cents per box, containing two cans, each holding four Imperial or five common trade gallons of kerosene; and the monopoly of collecting this lee kin tax was sold for thirty thousand dollars; which would represent, at 40¢ per box, an importation of 75,000 boxes, or 750,000 trade gallons, of the approximate value of \$150,000.

The Leekin-tax remains unchanged; but the sales of the Leekin monopoly on Kerosene into Canton for the year 1886 amounted to \$60,000, which left the speculating syndicate a large margin of profits; although that sum represented an importation and consumption of about 150,000 Cases or 300,000 Cans, or say 1,500,000 trade gallons, of the approximate value of \$300,000.00.

Bidders for the Kerosene Leekin monopoly in this Province of Kwang-tung for the coming year are informed no bids will be entertained for less than \$100,000.00, which represents about 250,000 Cases or 500,000 Cans, equivalent to about 2,000,000 imperial or 2,500,000 trade gallons; and the expectations of bidders for a margin of profits on that sum is based on the ordinary increase of the Kerosene traffic and use; which seems to justify estimates that during the coming year Canton will receive and distribute over 400,000 Cases or 800,000 Cans, or about 10,000,000 gallons, of the approximate value of \$750,000.00.



1  
This estimate for 1887, for Canton and its interior markets alone, is about the same as the total importations of Kerosene into China in 1881, according to the Imperial Customs Trade reports for that year; and indicates, with actual transactions of present and previous years, steady and rapid extension in the importation of this important American commodity, and increased consumption of a beneficent article of Commerce in Southern China, notwithstanding the severe Lee Kin-tay imposed thereon by the Chinese Authorities.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
Charles Seymour  
W. F. A. C.

No. 116

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.



*Amad J. Smith*  
*M. Seymour*

*Number 15<sup>th</sup> 1886*

*To Department of State.*

SUBJECT:

*Location of U.S. Consulate at Canton*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

*Sale of lot and house now occupied.*

*Neutrality for changing location.*

*Scarcity of desirable buildings*

No.

116

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

The Honorable

November 15<sup>th</sup> 1886

James D. Porter

Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that the lot and house or premises leased in 1882 from Mrs Mary Thomas, of London, England, and since first of December 1882, occupied and solely used as the United States Consulate, on Shamien, in Canton, have been sold to and purchased by Alfred Row, Esquire, Silk-Merchant, who will require possession of the property at the end of 1886, for his Commission business, and is now erecting on the lot a large Warehouse, in rear of the building used as the Consulate.

Shamien, on which all of the foreign merchants dwell and do business, and where the Consuls, Customs officials, and other foreign residents reside, is an Island about half a mile in length and about one and a third miles in circumference, with a stone bound or wall erected around the Island, which has the Canton Harbor and River on the Southern front, and a Canal between the Island and the (native) City of Canton on the North side, and at the East and West ends.

There are two avenues running through the British  $\frac{1}{10}$  <sup>third</sup> <sub>or  $\frac{1}{5}$</sub>  (Central and western portions) of the Island East and West, and on these two avenues the buildings face South, and all are built on the north side of the avenues,

5

The Southern Monsoon during the warm ~~season~~ determines this place.

The most desirable of the avenues is the one fronting the river and harbor.

The Central Avenue is measurably deprived of the refreshing breezes which reach the dwellers on the front Avenue.

The last  $\frac{1}{10}$  of the Island of Shamen is owned by the French Government, and is not occupied or built upon, except a small affair on a small lease.

The British portion of Shamen is nearly all occupied. Only three desirable lots on the Avenue are not built upon; and their owners hold them at high prices.

Since the riotous years of 1883 and 1884 the British and French Consuls have not found it pleasant to reside at the large handsome Consulates of their governments in the vicinity of the high Chinese officials in the Northern part of the City of Canton, or to pass to and fro through the streets in exciting times.

As recently as October 1885 the British Consul had his sedan-chair smacked and chair-bearers jostled aside by a rude crowd of natives; and the French Consul in that year was compelled to invoke the protection of the Chinese authorities on the streets of Canton, and had Chinese soldiers continually at the French Legation for protection of the Consulate of France.

Both British and French consuls now reside on Shamien.

The officials of the Chinese Maritime Customs (foreigners) are being transferred from dwellings in the Chinese portions of Canton to dwellings on Shamien with the foreign community as far as desirable buildings can be bought, or hired on long leases.

Several new commercial firms and establishments have been opened at Shamien during the past two years.

Thus, the demand for desirable and well located buildings on Shamien has nearly exhausted available sites and buildings; and unless some arrangement is made to secure one of the two or three desirable locations by a lease of four or ten years, the United States Consulate will be driven back to some inferior structure on one of the rear lots facing the Canal, or sent across the Canal into "Chinatown", or across the River into the Chinese district of "Hanan", away from the foreign community and business houses, and beyond all possibility of communicating with ships in port, or with the Chinese authorities, in event of any disturbance or riot, such as has frequently occurred in Canton during the past three years. There remain two chances to postpone such an evil for a few years.

By reference to appended two maps of Canton and Shamien, you will see the locations of the Consulates, merchants, Club-house, &c. &c.

Please notice present location of this Consulate on lots 9 and 26, which is as well located as any house on Shamien, and with good rooms.

For this we have paid annual rent of seven hundred dollars in gold; besides which, I paid a bonus of two hundred dollars from my own resources, as I was then enabled to entertain guests on a liberal scale, and not compelled to "play second fiddle" to any of the European or Chinese Officials socially.

Please refer to lot No. 19, (East of the British Consulate block,) which I regard as the most desirable of the few available localities on Shamien.

This lot No. 19 is 90' x 120', and owned by the wealthy Indian family of Sassoons.



C

I am led to believe that an English Capitalist in Hong Kong can buy this lot, and erect thereon a block of two dwellings or tenements, two stories high, if tenants of undoubted ability to pay rent will take "ten-years' leases" at about \$800-allegian each per annum. The \$700-allowance by the United States Government being payable in gold will be deemed ample to cover the rent of one of the two tenements - say for the corner one for the United States Consulate, and I apprehend no difficulty in finding a satisfactory tenant for the other half of the block. If the Department of State would authorize such a lease to be made, pledging merely the 20% of a Consul's salary annually for ten years, probably this desirable place for the U.S. Consulate can be secured during the year 1887, or probably by the middle of that year. The land and building will cost \$16,000.

It is more than probable that a similar arrangement might be made with the present owner of the lot on which this United States Consulate is now located, on lot 9; which, if available, is the best possible location on Shamien, in view of business interests and sanitary considerations, and also the dignity of permanence in the location of a Consulate, <sup>with communication with</sup> <sup>war vessels.</sup> If however, there are objections to either or both of those schemes, the Department of State can secure for the United States Consulate at Canton, a very desirable, comfortable, and, in every respect convenient and respectable place on Lot 1, at the west end of Shamien, for five years, with the option or privilege of extending the lease to ten years from next Spring, by authorizing the Consul to make a lease for the same.

The grounds are larger than four ordinary lots, and ornamented with tropical trees. The site is good, as it not only fronts the Avenue and beach, but gets the breeze from the River and Ocean (or Estuary) during the Southern monsoon in summer. It is conveniently located for business interests.

The building on the lot No. 1 is a one story building (bungalow) of liberal dimensions and ample verandahs. Through the center of the house, which is about 65 feet in length, is a hall eleven feet in width; and on either side of the hall are three rooms  $2\frac{1}{4}$  feet in width by about  $24\frac{1}{2}$  feet in length - two of the Southern front rooms being connected by wide folding doors, and all rooms entered by double doors.

It is the property of Ernest Deacon, Engineer; head of the old and opulent English Firm of Messrs. Deacon & Co. The building has never been leased or hired to or by any one, although \$1200. rent per annum has been offered for it, and refused.

10)

The present occupant is about to leave China, to reside in Great Britain; and the building will undergo repairs at an expense of over \$1,000, and be ready for occupancy about May next, if required as the United States Consulate, of which early notice is to be given.

The Consul agrees to accept the allowance of the United States Government to the Consul for rent, provided it shall not be less than at present; and will put the building in good order, and give a lease for five years, with the option, on the part of the Department of State, to extend the lease five years longer; if the Department authorizes the Consul to take a lease on these terms. As this will secure a good location and convenient premises for the Consulate at Canton, I recommend such an arrangement, unless the Department authorizes location on lot 9 or on lot 19, as herein suggested.

As it is very desirable that the decision of the Department of State should be known by me before moving the archives of this Consulate from the present location, in order that my arrangements for the future location of the Consulate may be in harmony with the views of the Department, and all unnecessary expenses thereby avoided, permit me to suggest that a telegram (or cablegram) should be sent to me (if you wish, at my expense) briefly indicating approval of my suggestion in regard to lot 1, or lot 9, or lot 19, by simply saying "approved", or "9 approved", or "nineteen approved", or "exercise discretion", or if none of these three plans meets with your approval, merely say "short lease", and I will understand that a long lease is not desired, and that I must make the best of the emergency, and secure such location as is most available for one year, or during mutual pleasure of landlord and tenant. If this contingency is provided for already. I have secured a place for the Consulate in a building to be used by a Clergyman after it is vacated by the U.S. Consul, but it is in rather cramped quarters for a full Consulate.

12

During some turbulent scenes in Canton, Americans and other foreigners have gladly taken shelter, lodging, and meals, at the Consulate, to the extent of its capacity for entertainment; and on many social and festive occasions, parties numbering thirty, forty, fifty, and when sixty and seventy, have had good cheer and pleasant welcome at dinners, dances, and other festivities, which had a tendency to keep American colors at the front; and I shall sincerely regret being compelled to lower the character of the Consulate, after faithfully endeavoring to lift it out of the miserable condition in which I found it; when it had no standing socially or officially, either among natives or foreigners, in the most important City of the Empire.

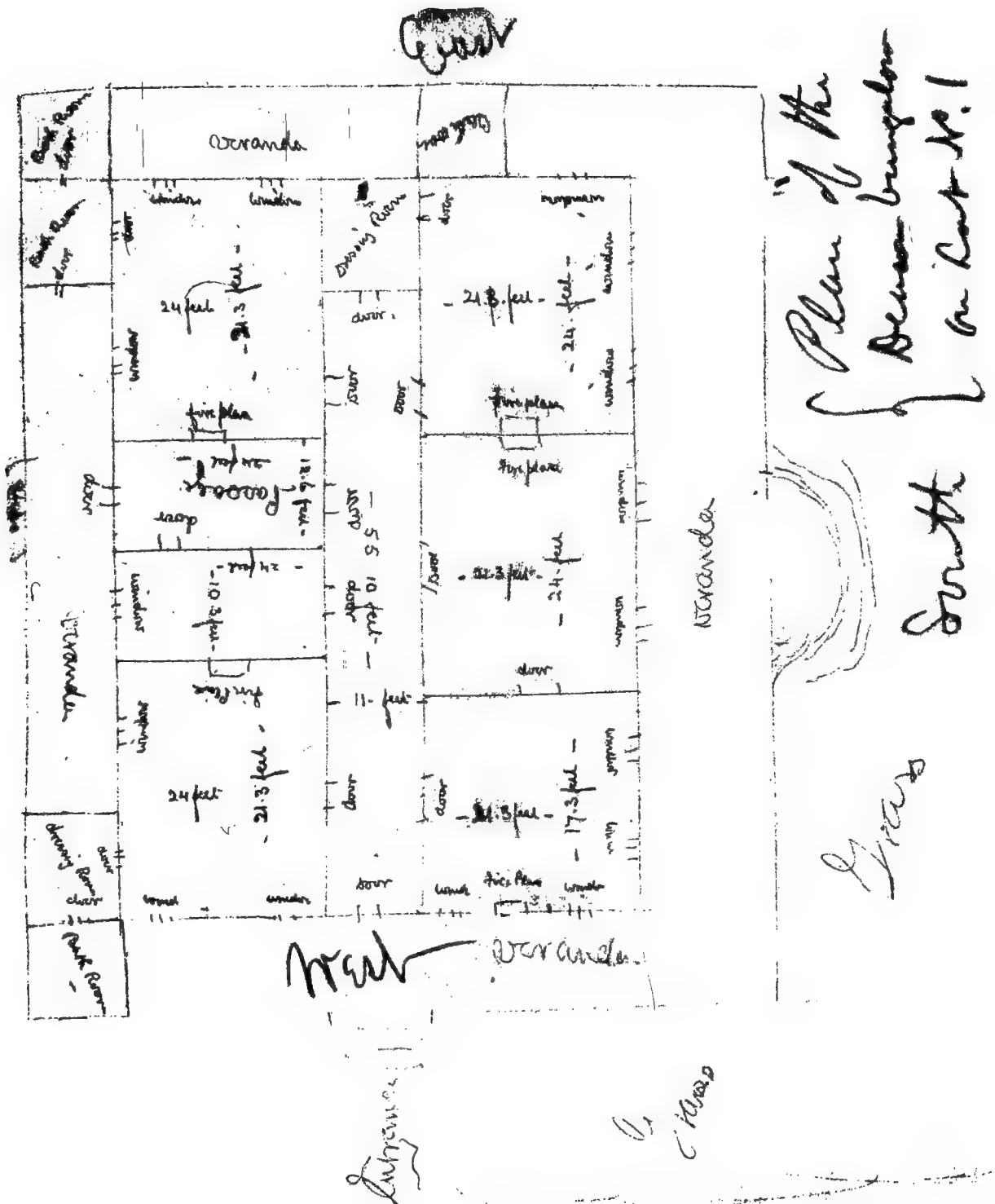
If the Department of State approves of the proposed lease with Mr. Deacon, he will wish to be informed by telegram to the Consul.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,  
 Charles Seymour  
 Consul.

From Captain Glass, U.S. Navy

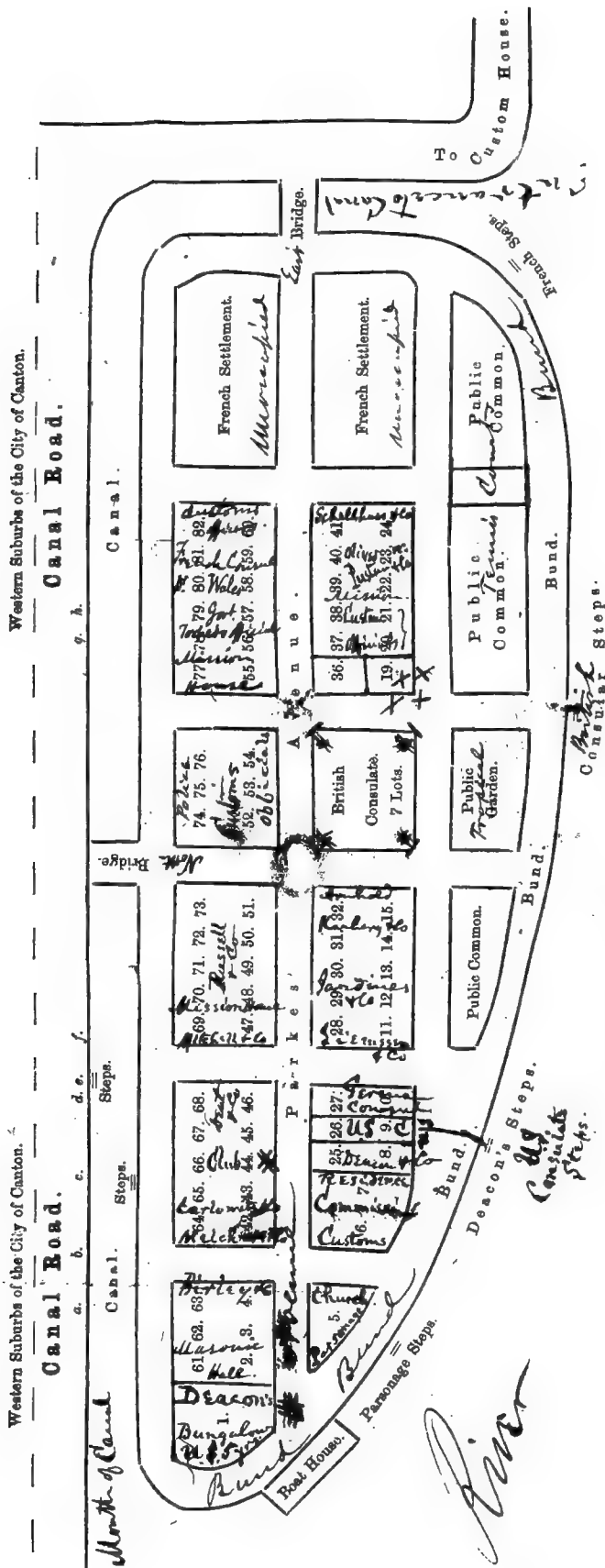
The foregoing despatch having been read to me by Mr. Seymour, I would respectfully state that, in my opinion, the strongest reasons exist for adopting the suggestions made concerning a permanent location for the U.S. consulate at this port. From my experience at Canton, since March last, the vessel under my command having been stationed here almost continually, I am convinced that the consulate should be located in as prominent a position on the Bund as possible. The instructions under which I am acting, to take any steps necessary to protect life and property in case of an outbreak on the part of the turbulent population of Canton, such as occurred some years since, make it most important for me to have easy and rapid means of communication with our consul at all times; and the absence of such means of communication, caused by the removal of the consulate to some obscure and inaccessible place, might be at any moment attended by the most serious consequences.

Henry Glass,  
Commander, U.S. Navy.  
Commanding U.S.S. "Monocacy."

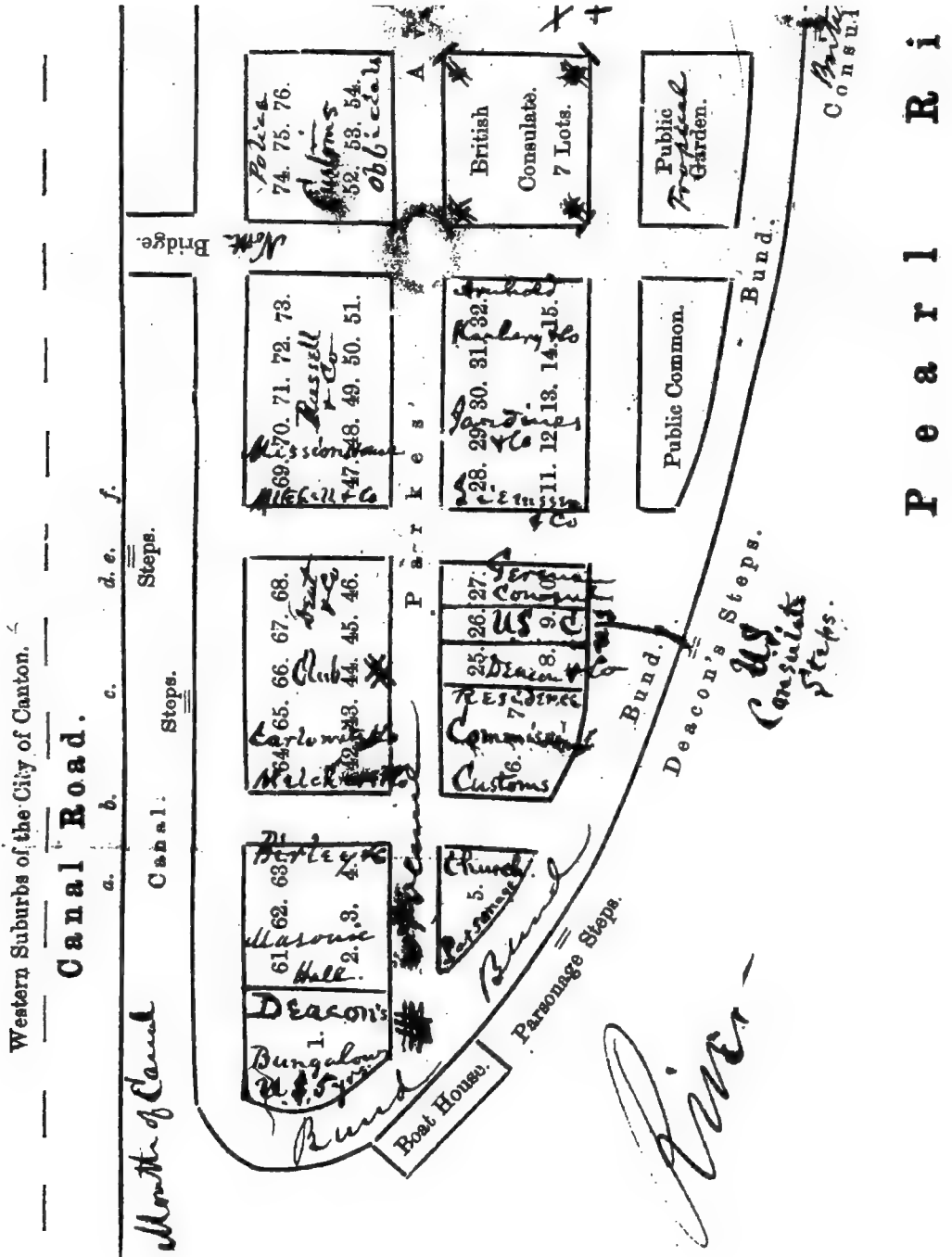




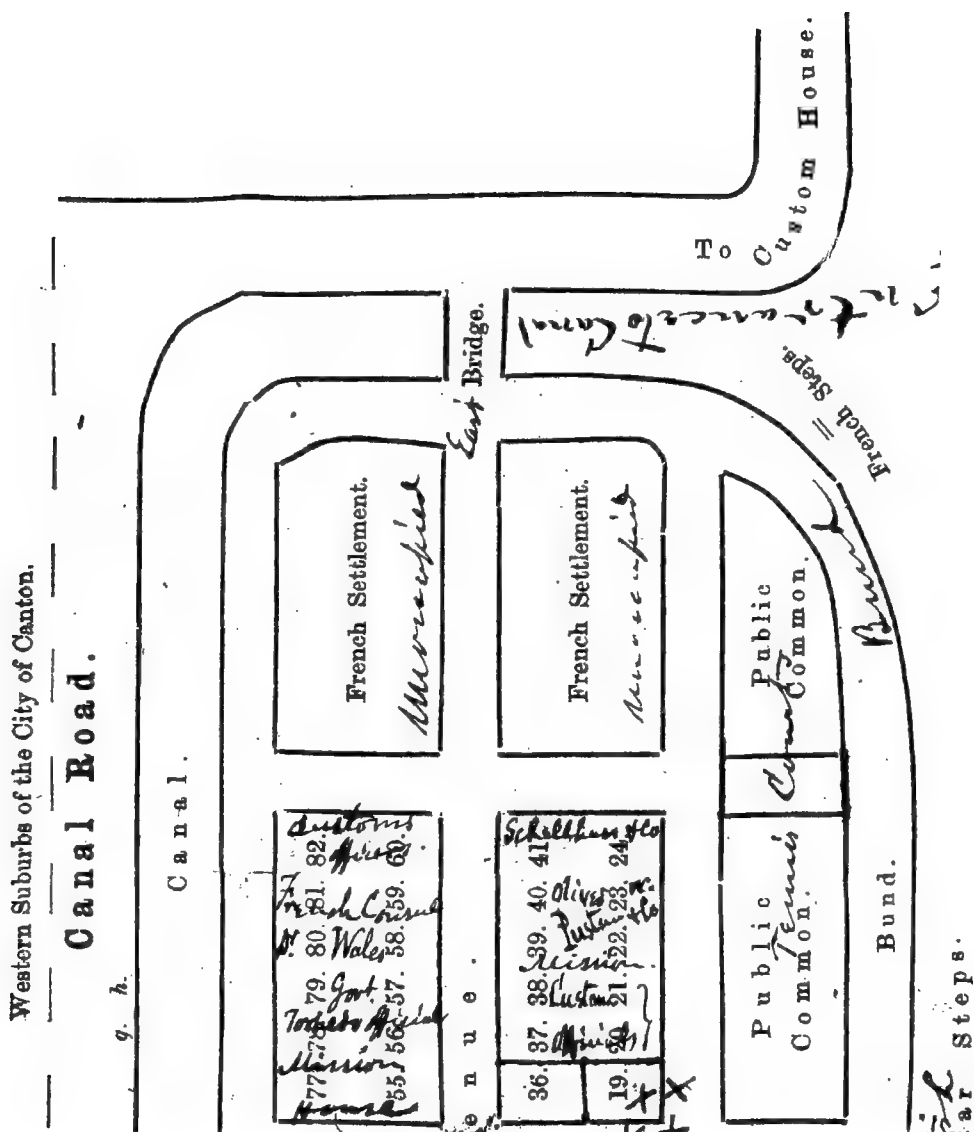
North



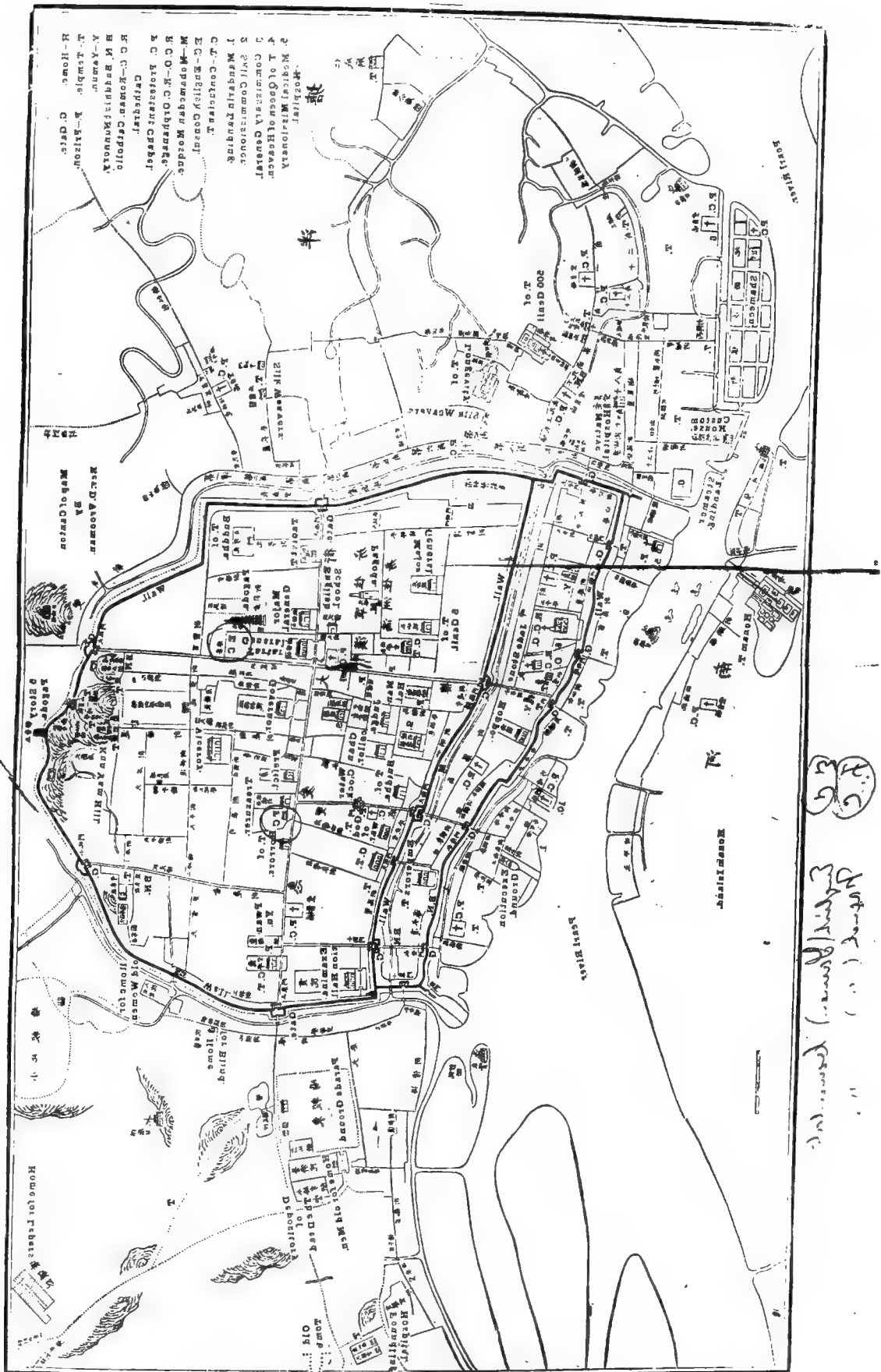
both



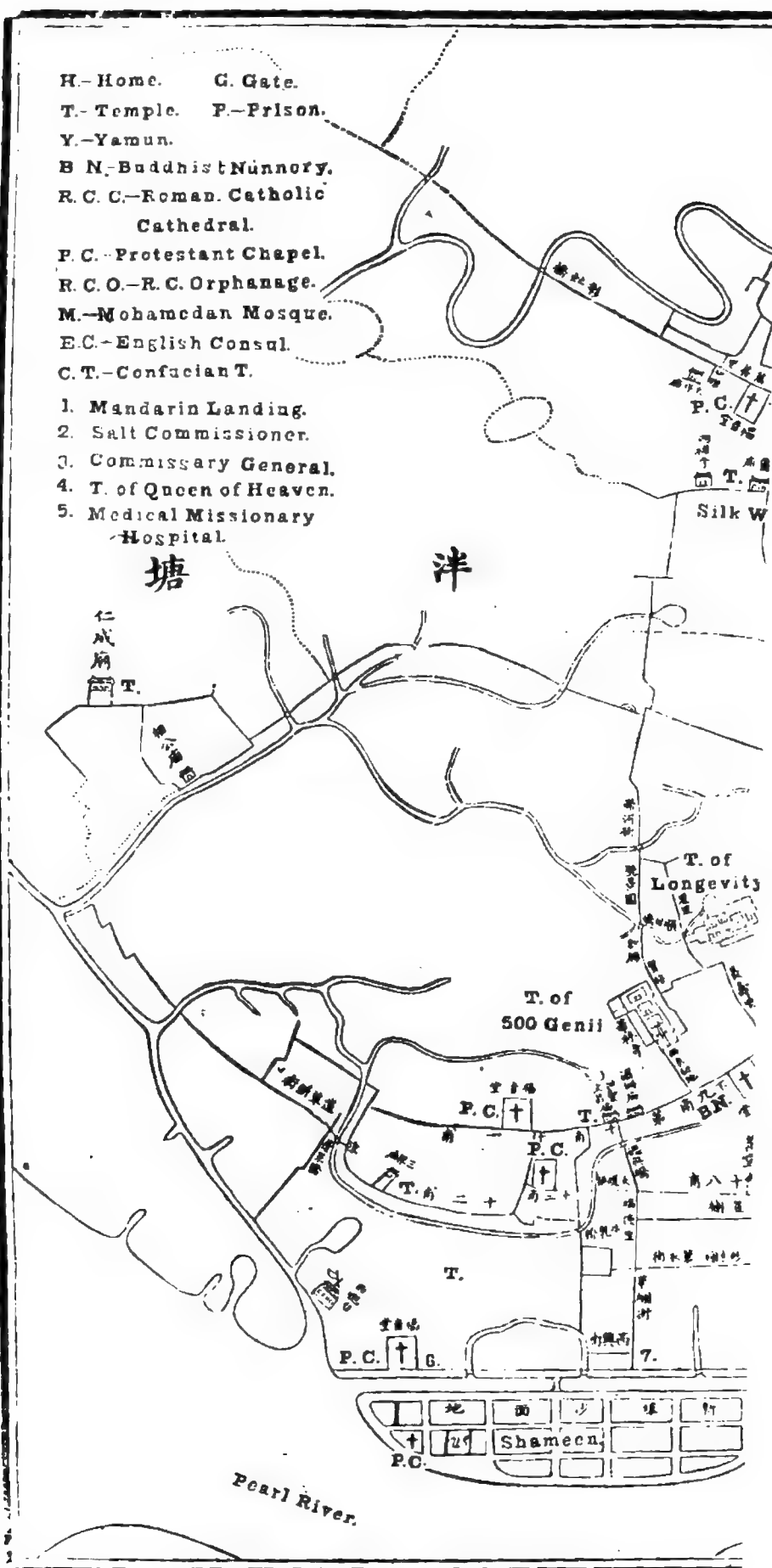
局部图(1)



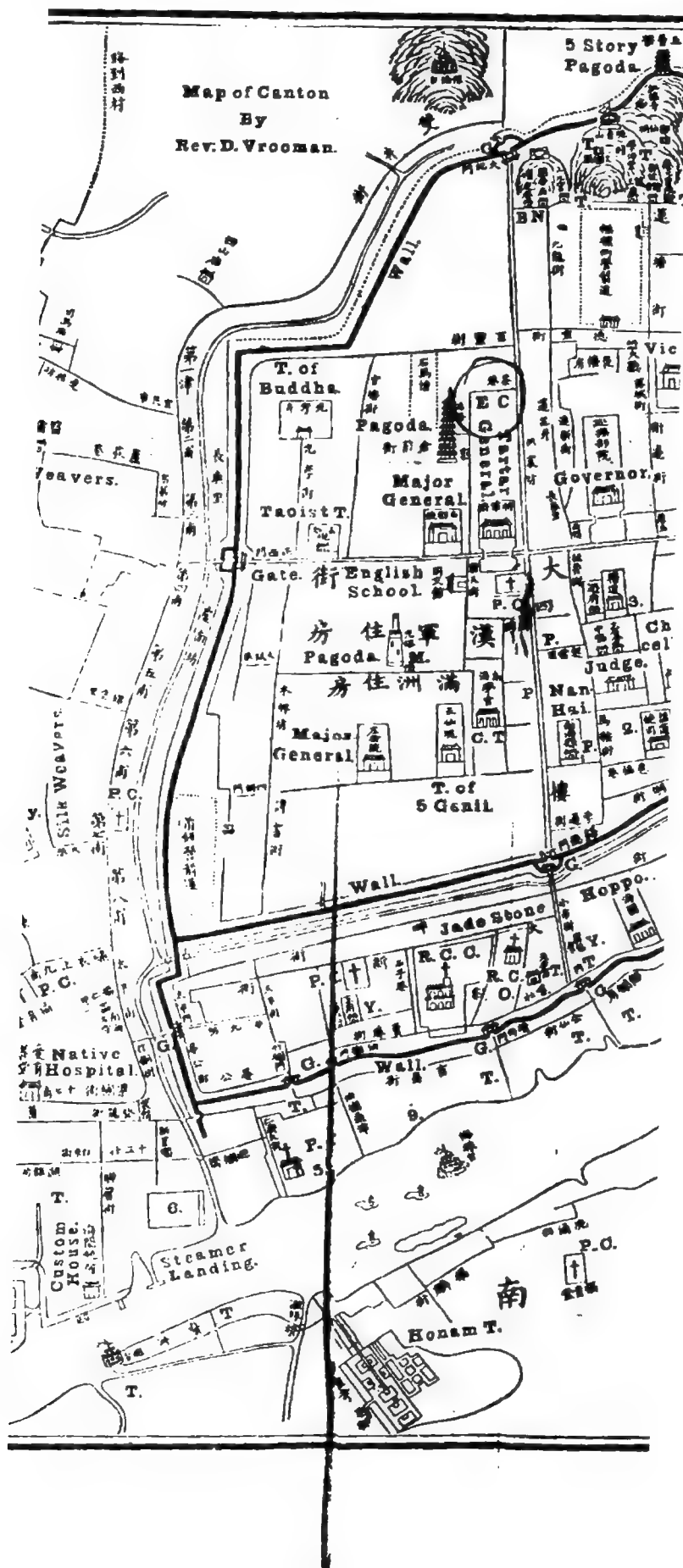
局部图(2)



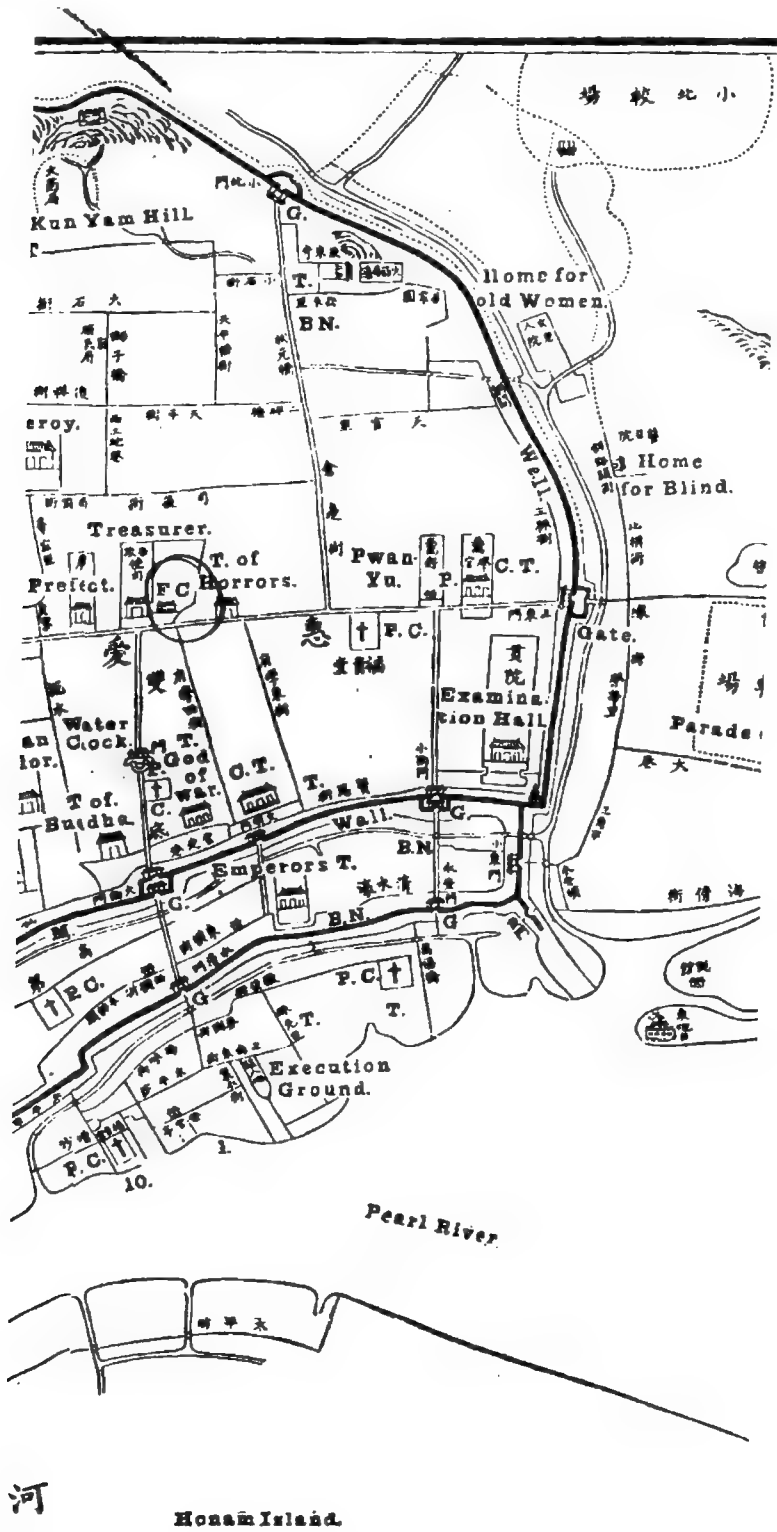
Map of Canton (Guangzhou) foreign settlement, showing streets, buildings, and landmarks.



局部图(1)

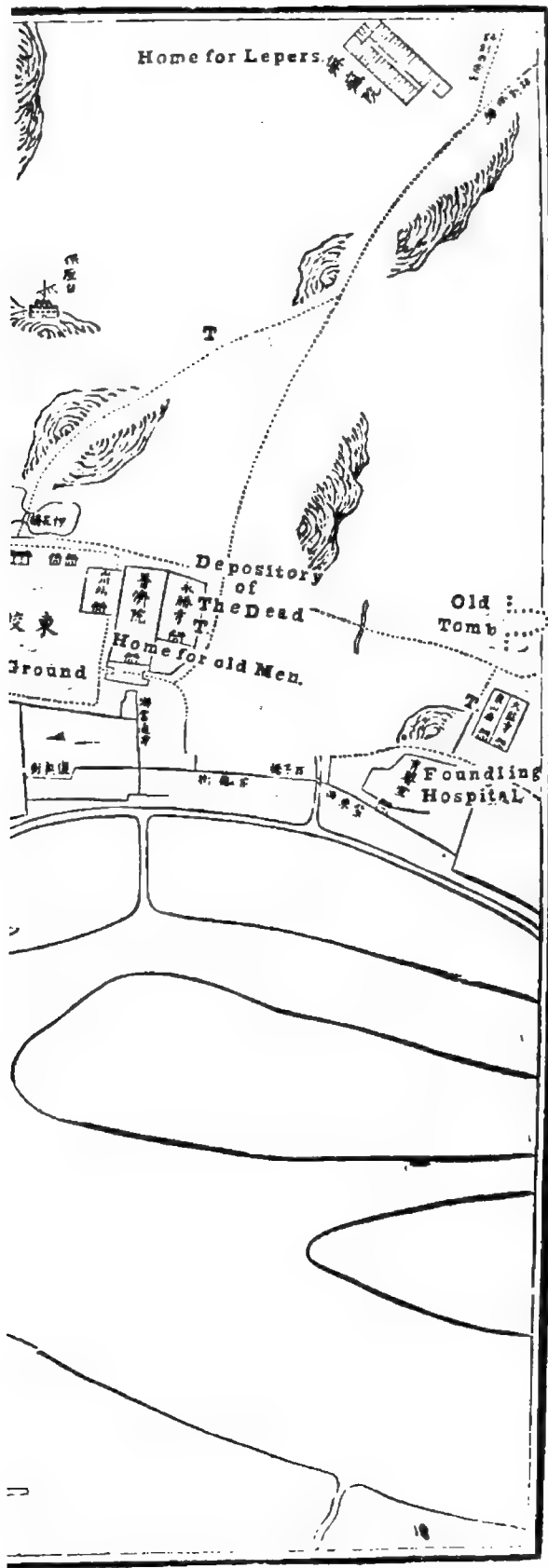


局部图(2)



English (Yamen) House  
Pagoda ( )

局部图(3)



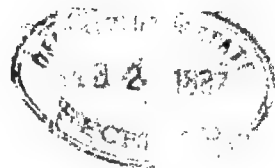
局部图(4)



No. 117



United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.



*Seignior* January 13 - 1887

To Department of State.

SUBJECT:

*Transmitting Quarterly Account & Return.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

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*Canton, China.*

*Charles Seignior, U.S. Consul*

*January 13, 1887.*

---

*Transmitting Account  
and Returns to  
December 31, 1886.*

---

*6 inclosures*

No. 117

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

The Honorable

January 13<sup>th</sup> 1887

James D. Baker

Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit  
herewith Account, Vouchers, and  
Returns, for Quarter, and Year,  
ended December 31, 1886, as  
required; with the exception of the  
list of American residents, and the  
certificate of one marriage, which,  
owing to removal of the Consulate  
from old quarters, without being  
able to occupy new building  
for a few days, are inaccessible,  
but will be transmitted without delay.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour

M. Consul.

Six inclosures

United States Consulate Canton.

*Names of Persons employed at the  
United States Consulate in Canton.*

<i>Name</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>of What Country</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Date of Nom.</i>	<i>Date of Certificat</i>
<i>Charles Seymour</i>	<i>Laborer, Wis</i>	<i>United States</i>	<i>Consul</i>	<i>1882</i>	<i>1882</i>
<i>Sam Nye</i>	<i>New Bedford, Mass</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>Vice Consul</i>	<i>1882</i>	<i>1882</i>
<i>U Wha (Too Tsu Wha)</i>	<i>Canton</i>	<i>China</i>	<i>Interpreter</i>	<i>1886</i>	
<i>U Lin</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>Writer of Chinese</i>	<i>1881</i>	

*Consulate, Canton, China, December 31, 1886*

*Charles Seymour  
M. Consul*

No. 118



*ackd  
Mar 9*

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.



*January 15<sup>th</sup> 1887*

*Seymour*

*To Department of State.*

SUBJECT:

*Requesting supply of paper and map.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

No. 118

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

January 15<sup>th</sup> 1887

The Honorable

James D. Porter

Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir: I have the honor to request  
a supply of three reams of official  
dispatch paper (2 reams narrow and  
one ream wide spaces between line-rules)  
and five pounds of sealing wax (large  
sticks) may be sent to this Consulate;

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour,  
Consul.

on  
No. 119  
ack. J. T. P.  
United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
MAR 8 1887  
RECEIVED.  
J. H. Clair  
JAN 20  
U. S. CONSULATE  
CANTON  
Mr. Raymond  
January 22<sup>nd</sup> 1887  
To Department of State.  
J. H. Clair

SUBJECT:

*Reviewing Chinese Proclamations on Revenue.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

*Additional Likin-tax imposed.*

*Copies for publication*  
7.

No. 119

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

The Honorable

January 28<sup>th</sup> 1887  
*Samuel D. Carter*

Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to call  
your attention to my dispatch  
No 115, dated November 13<sup>th</sup> 1886,  
in reference to the increased  
importation and consumption  
of American Kerosene in  
Southern China; and to also  
bring to your notice the two  
accompanying translations  
of Proclamations issued  
by the Chinese Authorities  
of Kwang Tung Province,  
dated November 28. 1886, and  
December 18. 1886, regarding  
an additional *skin-tax* on Kerosene.

*K.B.*

In 1882 the Chinese authorities levied a "likin" tax of forty cents per case on Kerosene <sup>brides</sup> the duty; and sold or "farmed out" the ~~monopoly~~ or exclusive right to collect this "likin" to a Chinese syndicate for about thirty thousand dollars; and in 1884 sold the ~~monopoly~~ for (\$63,000) sixty three thousand dollars.

The Contractors, or Kerosene syndicate, confess having collected "likin" in 1886 on 220,000 Cases. The estimated consumption or receipt of Kerosene for 1887 are about 400,000 Cases; and the Chinese Authorities have in these Proclamations added an additional "likin" tax of ninety cents per case = \$1.30 per Case <sup>brides</sup> the import duty. This is severe.



2

When remonstrance was made four years ago against the "likin" tax on kerosene, the then Acting Viceroy at Canton was His Excellency "Tseng", the able Viceroy of Hankin, who relieved the Viceroy of Canton, while the latter officiated at Peking during the mourning of His Excellency Li Hung Chang for his mother.

The Chinese Authorities stood on the declaration of Viceroy "Tseng" that

{	<p>"Once foreign goods have entered          China, and become the property of          Chinese merchants, their taxation          are wholly and solely matters within          the direction of China."</p>	}
---	---	---

The facts have been presented to Minister Denby, in Chinese and English Copies of these new Proclamations; and pending action on the case at Peking, I have refrained from any controversy on the subject with the local authorities, although requested to resist by the American merchants, Messrs. Russell and Company; to whom I communicated the fact that the matter has been laid before the W Minister, who intimated a purpose to bring it to the attention of the "Tsung-li Yamen" or Foreign Office at Peking.

In visiting the Chinese "likin" in American territory, we may possibly be reminded of the 100.70. W. duty on Chinese fire-crackers.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant

Charles Seymour  
 Consul



translation:

A

Nov 28. 1886

Proclamation, No. 1 on Kerosene.

It is proclaimed that the article of Kerosene which  
 comes from abroad is very explosive in its character.  
 The people, on account of its cheapness, purchase it  
 for the use of their lamps, and the least negligence will  
 result in a calamity of a fire with unlimited evils. Therefore  
 it ought to be prohibited. But fearing that the people who have  
 come to use it constantly will be inconvenienced, and  
 as it is necessary to appropriate funds for coast defense  
 and the prevention or detection of smuggling at Canton at  
 least, the article of kerosene ought to be heavily taxed,  
 that its price shall be about the same as that of the pea-  
 tail in the country, which as a necessary article  
 for the use of families, shall not be crushed out of market  
 trade. To enable the merchants to be profited, and the  
 families lessened, so by this action two advantages  
 are gained.

Upon investigation it is found that in the 10<sup>th</sup>  
 year of Kwang-Siu (1884), the "likin" on the kerosene monopoly  
 for the whole province was farmed out to a merchant named  
 "Chang Shiu Ying" for \$63,000 annually which is divided  
 equally in its payments.

Now it having been ordered by  
 His Excellency the Governor that besides the sum paid (\$63,000)  
 the merchant who farmed out the "likin" on the kerosene  
 monopoly, 120,000 Taels (= about \$80,000) more must be levied  
 on the kerosene monopoly every year, and if that merchant  
 does not wish to undertake the farming out business, the  
 government shall carry out the levies and shall ascertain  
 how many boxes of such article are imported annually and  
 how much likin shall be levied on each box which shall  
 be carried into effect as soon as possible. Having been so  
 ordered, the merchant named "Chang Shiu Ying" was sent  
 and interrogated; and upon questioning the merchant  
 replied saying that the import of kerosene annually  
 (amounted)

amounted to nearly 220,000 boxes; but they are stored up in Hong Kong and Macao and are easily subjected to being smuggled, as most of them are transhipped in private salt junks. If a heavier lekin is again levied, a larger capital is required; and thus smuggling is increased; so he does not dare to undertake the business.

Upon investigation although the article of kerosene, which arrives at Hong Kong annually is said to amount to 220,000 boxes, and on each box is levied six mace (about 90 cents) only a fund of 120,000 Taels (about \$180,000) can be procured annually for coast defense and the prevention of smuggling which does not affect the lekin (\$63,000) paid by the merchant Chang Shiu Ying as each cun is levied and collected separately, so that the merchant is to follow the usual rule that is to pay \$63,000 annually, and all verbal excuses are forbidden.

Now all the "lekin" offices have been ordered to follow this rule of levying and collecting, but since "lekin" offices are not yet established at the port of Kiung Chow (Island of Hainan) the Kiung Chow Prefect has been ordered to follow the same manner of levying and collecting among the import taxes. But if a heavier capital is required, and smuggling is increased which seems very reasonable, a plan ought to be devised to strictly guard against smuggling, so as to procure public funds.

Therefore His Excellency the Governor is requested to order the officers for detection of smuggling at the six gates, the river and sea revenue cruisers, and the revenue officers to be strict on their watch; and if there is any one who privately carries on the kerosene business, its cargo and ship shall be taken for the use of the government, and one half of the profits shall be used as rewards; and if any officer or officer in any port or in the interior finds any kerosene which

hao

has not been levied, on to contribute to the fund for coast defense and for detection of smuggling all of it shall be taken for public purposes; and if there is any one who knows of any kerosene smuggling, and reports to any of the offices of the six gates, or to any revenue cruiser, one half the profits shall be awarded to him. So in accordance to this act, let it be proclaimed to the merchants and the people that they should know, at present six snace (about 90 cents) are levied on each box of kerosene to be appropriated to the funds for coast defense and detection of smuggling, which are to be collected by all the lekin offices and are not concerned with the amount of lekin paid by the merchant "Khang Shiu Ying," who farmed out the business.

Those merchants who deal in this business must follow the orders of this proclamation, and go to the lekin office to pay the taxes; and if there should be any crafty merchant who passes the office, and smuggles any kerosene that has not been levied, the whole ship or cargo shall be taken for public purposes. No pardons are offered, and those revenue officers shall not use any excuse to demand any bonus from any such merchants as to cause any disturbance; so all should be careful and not trespass against the orders.

Issued on the 3rd day of the 11<sup>th</sup> Moon in the year of Kwang Lü (equivalent to Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> 1886)

(signed)	Hau	-----	Kwang Tung Treasurer
{ Commissioners of the lekin offices of the whole province of Kwang Tung }	Yü	-----	" " Judge
	Wong	-----	Salt Commissioner
	Yin	-----	Grain Intendant

Let it be proclaimed that the houses in this provincial capital (Canton) are closely built and are thickly populated, so the strictest watch ought to be kept to avoid fire calamities. Since the beginning of Winter, the occurrences of fires had been repeatedly seen. Although it is due to the dryness of the weather, that things are easily being set on fire, but upon examining the causes of such negligence, nine causes out of ten originated from the use of Kerosene, because its character is highly explosive, and it burns quickly when fire is applied, and the least negligence will result in a calamity of a great fire.

There are some provinces where proclamation had been posted, strictly forbidding the use of Kerosene for the reason that its advantage is small and its evil is great and that it does not profit the people. The price of the Kerosene in this Kwang Tung Province is comparatively cheap and many people have used it; and if it (Kerosene) should be suddenly prohibited, it may be feared that inconvenience and trouble will rise, so we the Commissioners have again put it into consideration for the 4<sup>th</sup> time.

Now it is ordered by the Emperor that all classes of goods should be similarly taxed in order to appropriate the fund for the detection of smuggling. The Kerosene should be taxed heavier, so that its price will become higher and that it will not be easily purchased, then its use by the people will be lessened in order to avoid calamities, which is truly a great benefit to all the families.

Now a regulation had been considered and established that on each box of Kerosene containing two cans altogether weighing 50 catties (about 67 lbs) 6 mace (90 cts) should be levied to appropriate the funds for the detection of smuggling. The local officers among all ports and rivers should enforce such levies according to this regulation. In the Kiating Chow district the same amount (90 cts) should be levied on the Kerosene, besides the

the import tax collected. This tax has nothing to do with the amount of *lekin* farmed out by the merchant *Chang Shing Ying* as each is collected separately.

Now the Governor General and the Governor have replied to our petitions and have permitted such regulation to be carried out into effect. But fearing that after such tax is again levied, a comparative greater capital is required and smuggling can not be avoided, so we again petitioned to the Governor General and the Governor to order the *lekin* offices at the six gates, and all revenue cruisers and boats among all ports and rivers to gather with the naval officers to be strict on their watch. If there should be any kerosene privately sold without paying the *lekin* and the fees taxed for the detection of smuggling, the ship and cargo should be taken for public purposes, after deducting 70% for public use, the remaining 30% should be used for rewards. If there should be any people or soldiers who know of any smuggling being carried on and reports to the *lekin* offices at the six gates or to any of the <sup>*lekin*</sup> offices outside of this capital or to any of the revenue cruisers or boats, and give clue to where the smuggled goods may be seized, when such goods are captured 50% should also be taken for rewards. According to this let it be proclaimed to the merchants, the people and soldiers so that you should know that on every box of kerosene each containing two cans altogether weighing 50 catties (67 lbs.), 6 <sup>(90 cts)</sup> mace should be levied, at all the *lekin* offices, and this has nothing to do with the amount of *lekin* farmed out by the merchant *Chang Shing Ying* as each is collected separately. Those merchants must obey the orders of this proclamation and when they pass any *lekin* office, they should pay the taxes required and are forbidden to smuggle. If they should be caught. If any people or soldiers who

know

knows of any smuggling being carried on, should at once give clue to where the smuggled goods may be seized, in order to be awarded. But all the ~~local~~ offices and officers should not borrow excuses to demand any bonus so as to cause disturbances.

All must be careful and not trespass against the orders of this proclamation.

Dated on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> Moon in the Year of Hwang-Sü (= Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> 1886.)

(Signed)

{ Commissioners of the whole Province of Kwang Tung }	Gau - - - -	Kwang Tung Treasurer
	Yü - - - -	" " Judge
	Wang - - - -	Salt Commissioner
	Yen - - - -	Grain Intendant

B.

Proclamation  
on  
Kerosene.

Winton, Dec 18, 1886

15  
No. 120. Comp.  
12-1-87  
United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.  
Mr. Raymond  
and  
Mar. 17  
To Department of State.  
January 22<sup>nd</sup> 1887  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
MAR 7 1887  
RECEIVED  
SUBJECT:  
Mailing Invoices to Collection of Customs.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:



No. 120

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

The Honorable

January 22<sup>nd</sup> 1887  
*James D. Porter*

Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

I have the honor to request that the paragraph N<sup>o</sup>. 641, in regard to delivery of two of the four Certified invoices therein mentioned to the person forwarding them may have consideration, in view of the fact shippers often use the copy of invoice, introduced for the custom House at port of first arrival, in negotiating their bills or drafts at the Banks, which often or usually require Consular invoices to be attached to one or both of the bills for exchange, and thus necessitate special

bonds at Custom House in port of first arrival to insure transit of ~~the~~ goods to port of entry; and the preparation of an extra or fifth copy of the certified invoices by the Consul for collectors who then fail to receive a Consular invoice when the goods arrive at first port of arrival.

They should not both collectors, or the collector of both ports, receive the certified invoices direct from the Consulate, where invoices are certified?

Having made, free of charge, over a hundred certificates to supply such deficiencies, I respectfully submit that all invoices required at both ports should, or might with propriety, be sent direct by bonds.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,  
 Charles Leonard  
 Consul

No. 121  
ac  
James  
M. Seymour  
This Cons must give  
5 g Enclosures  
United States Consulate  
1887 at Canton, China.  
April 14 - 1887  
To Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Transmitting Accounts and Returns

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

Receiving Account, Rent & Miscellaneous Expenses, with Vouchers;  
and Returns; and stating change of location  
of Consulate, and reduced rent.

Canton, China  
April 14. 1887

Charles Seymour Webb  
Transmitting Account,  
and Returns, with Vouchers.  
Reduced Rent & Change of location.

5 inclos.

No. 121

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

The Honorable

James D. Foster  
April 14<sup>th</sup> 1887Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir: I have the honor to transmit herewith Account, Returns, and Vouchers, required from this Consulate, for the Quarter that ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 1887. There is no other business to report for said Quarter.

In the change of premises for this Consulate, rendered necessary, from the fact that the old place was purchased by a merchant for silk business, the rent is reduced from seven hundred dollars per annum to seven hundred Mexican dollars per annum.

The former premises were vacated by the U.S. Consulate at the beginning of the year 1887; and as the new building was not ready for occupation until first half of February; it was necessary to obtain rooms elsewhere, which were both cheap and uncomfortable, until the present suitable quarters were ready.

The building now occupied as the U.S. Consulate is owned by the English Wesleyan Mission; and is leased for one year; with the privilege of continuing another year; and, if not required for the purposes of the Mission, it can be continued to the end of A.D. 1889, at a rental of seven hundred dollars Mexican. It is located on Parkes' Avenue, between Mrs. Russell Ho's house and the Canton<sup>to</sup> Ho's.

Yours, Sir, Very Obedient Servant  
Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul

No. 122  
7

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

Dist. Clair

M. Seymour

April 16<sup>th</sup> 1887

To Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Burial place of the first U.S. Resident Minister to China.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

ack. with  
thanks.

I presented  
The enclosure  
To the Executive of  
The Diplomatic  
Bureau, nephew  
of the distinguished  
minister.

J. D. P.

of  
James

No. 122

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

the Honorable

James D. Porter

Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

April 16<sup>th</sup> 1887

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith a representation of the burial place of Alexander Bill Everett, the first Resident Minister of the United States of America to China; who died at Canton June 28<sup>th</sup> 1847; and was buried in the foreigners' burial ground on "French Island", near Whampoa.

The monument is of grey granite, and in a good state of preservation.

A nephew of the deceased Minister, (J. H. Peabody, Esquire, of the opulent firm of Messrs Kidder, Peabody & Co., Bankers, of Boston, Massachusetts, visited Canton last month. Mr Peabody and myself, by the

aid of H. B. W. Acting Consul  
Brady, visited the burial place  
of Minister Everett; who was  
an Elder and worthy brother of  
the eminent Edward Everett;  
who, as scholar, orator, and statesman,  
reflected honor upon the World's great Republic.

Both brothers represented their and our  
country at European courts; both were  
distinguished for ripe scholarship, and  
sound statesmanship; and both were  
men of great purity of life, and  
untarnished honor.

Good public men are among the richest  
assets of a Nation.

Copies of the accompanying representation  
of the monument and inscription have been  
sent to Mr Peabody; and to the U.S. Legation at Peking.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour  
W. P. Mason



No. 123

United States Consulate  
Canton, China.

U.S. CONSULATE  
CANTON, CHINA  
JUL 20 1887

RECEIVED  
JUL 25 1887

*Mr. Seymour*

*June 14 - 1887*

*To Department of State.*

*Dr. H. C. ...*

*acris Aug. 10, 1887.*

SUBJECT:

*Unsettled claims for losses in Kwai Ping May 6, 1886.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

No. 123

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

The Honorable

June 14<sup>th</sup> 1888  
James D. Porter

Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith Copy of a dispatch sent to H. E. the Viceroy of the Provinces in regard to unsettled claims of American citizens for losses sustained at "Kunming" in the Province of "Kwang Si" on May 6<sup>th</sup> 1888.

H. E. Chang Chik-tung, the Viceroy at Canton, is not only known throughout China as intensely and reluctantly anti-foreign in policy and action; but is also noted for scholarship and astuteness, and established adroitness in controversy, which he delights in;

2 /

while there is no Chinese official in the Empire who aspires to engage in argument with him; as he invariably carries off the honors, and elicits public applause, when he gets his dispatches and memorials published in official and secular journals, which he does effectively. His reply to the demands of the French Legation for indemnity for losses sustained by French residents and missionary establishments was certainly able and unanswerable and stopped all further proceedings. The chief trouble to overcome in any negotiations with H. E. the Viceroy, is the absence of truthfulness, as evinced in his denial of having telegraphed in March 1886 to the Chinese Legation in Washington about danger of reprisals.

Discrepancies between the Viceroy's assurances in several dispatches of last year, and the statements of the Kwei Ping Magistrate, in regard to the treatment of the case, are referred to in the accompanying copy of my dispatch of June 8<sup>th</sup> 1887 to H. E. the Viceroy; but the only chance of success in getting the claims of American citizens who suffered losses at Kwei Ping on May 6<sup>th</sup> 1886, is in holding the Viceroy to the performance of implied obligations expressed in his dispatch of August 14<sup>th</sup> 1886, which apparently reached the Department of State through Minister Deady; to whom, Chinese and English copies of the correspondence between the Viceroy and myself in this case, were sent from this Consulate.

That dispatch of August 14, 1886 from H. E. the Viceroy was extensively published in the United States, and generally received as indication of the adoption of a just and honorable policy by the Chinese authorities.

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I regret the necessity of stating that thus far H.E. the Viceroy has evinced no purpose to do any of the good acts outlined in his pleasant Dispatch of August 14<sup>th</sup> 1886.

In order to get its purport fully recognized by H.E. the Viceroy, I have sent to him a Chinese copy of it; and to keep the points therein stated, a translation of the same into English is hereto appended - marked <sup>2</sup>/<sub>B</sub>.

Your attention is respectfully called to the first three or four pages of my dispatch of June 8<sup>th</sup> 1887. (hereto appended marked <sup>1</sup>/<sub>A</sub>) in an effort to identify the branch hospital and mission in Kwang Si Province, in which Kwai Ping is situated, with the great Medical Mission Hospital at Canton; and in so doing, my object is to remove the objections of Chinese officials to the extension of religious or missionary operations to the interior of China; for I have so far been successful in getting the Chinese officials to regard with favor

2.

The Medical Mission Hospital at Canton, which has been in successful operation for over half a century, as to have transmitted to the treasurer of that Institution donations from the high Chinese officials, annually, during the past three or four years, about one thousand dollars - the Viceroy leading with two hundred dollars, followed by the Governor for the same amount, and other officials (native) from \$100, to \$10, each, and including all from the Viceroy to the Magistrate.

These explanations are given in order to establish the fact, that some progress has been made in overcoming and removing the prejudices of Chinese Mandarins to the most useful features of foreign missionary enterprises.

All of the doctors and surgeons of this Canton Hospital are Americans.

After the war between France and China terminated, American medical and surgical skill was in requisition for wounded Chinese officers and soldiers here and elsewhere in China.

In this way, and by these methods,  
the practical application of humane  
principles has done much to maintain  
friendly relations between intelligent Chinese  
and Americans. The reply of R. E.  
McViezy will be sent to the  
Department. Hoping it may  
be in the spirit of equity,

Yours, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul.

(Copy) United States Consulate, Canton, ~~June 8<sup>th</sup> 1887~~ <sup>1</sup>

His Excellency  
"Chang"  
Viceroy of the Two Kwangs.

The American Consul has the honor to request Your Excellency's favorable attention to the losses sustained by American citizens by the outrages that occurred at Kwai Ping in the Province of Kwang Si on May 8<sup>th</sup> 1886, when over five thousand and three hundred dollars of American citizens' property was needlessly destroyed by natives without any interference or prevention on the part of the local authorities; but with the countenance, encouragement, and leadership of Chinese soldiers wearing the uniform of the Chinese army, while the people generally seemed to be kindly disposed toward the American Mission Hospital and were connected with it at Kwai Ping.

Several communications and dispatches have passed between the American Consul and Your Excellency in regard to this matter; and the facts were fully set forth in the American Consul's dispatch of July 10<sup>th</sup> 1886.

Pending the adjustment and settlement of the Chinese claims for losses sustained in the Rock Springs, Wyoming, outrages, in which not one American citizen (either native or adopted) participated, these Kwai Ping claims were allowed to rest quietly; and the American Consul has hoped



ped, that Your Excellency would, before this time,  
 be kindly and justly offered to settle the claims  
 & losses sustained by American citizens at Kwei Ping.

Your Excellency, and all well informed Chinese  
 officials in Southern China, are aware of the beneficent  
 & usefulness of the great Medical Mission Hospital  
 Canton, which has been in successful operation for  
 over half a century, and for the past third of a century  
 under the superintendence of the eminent American  
 physician and surgeon Doctor Kerr, whose best years  
 & valuable services have been unselfishly conse-  
 crated to the humane and philanthropic work of al-  
 leviating the bodily sufferings of sick and wounded  
 natives of China, gratuitously and benevolently to all  
 who were suffering from diseases or wounds. He has  
 now and is aided by a corps of skillful male and female  
 doctors, who were educated and trained for Mission  
 Hospital service in China. The salaries and expenses  
 these doctors and surgeons, and also the salaries  
 & expenses of all American missionaries, are paid  
 by devoted and benevolent friends in America, who  
 contribute liberally for the support of similar persons  
 who are engaged in services of humanity and kindness  
 among the distressed and afflicted people of all coun-  
 tries on the Globe. Many thousands of sick and  
 distressed)

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stressed Chinese, have gladly availed themselves of the  
merciful and salutary treatment of these American  
Medical Mission Hospital doctors and surgeons;  
and already arrangements have been made to  
establish branch hospital and mission stations—  
at Kiang Chow on the Island of Hainan, and at  
Kwai Ping in the Province of Kwang Si, and at  
Kung Hong in the Province of Kwang Tung, to extend  
the benefits of the admirable system of Medical  
Mission Hospitals, so well appreciated at Canton.  
With this commendable object in view several  
visits were made by American missionaries into  
Kwang Si during the past five or more years; and  
finally, in the month of October 1885 Reverend Albert  
F. Fulton and wife, of the American Presbyterian  
Mission, who had frequently visited Kwang Si, (ac-  
companied by a sister, Miss Mary Fulton, who had  
been educated in America for the duties of doctor  
and surgeon) established a branch hospital and mis-  
sion station at Kwai Ping in the Province of Kwang Si;  
here there seemed to be, and doubtless was, and is  
now, prevailing kindly feelings towards the Americans  
towards Fulton and their praise-worthy enterprise.

Every thing indicated good feeling and kind  
treatment on the part of the inhabitants and native  
community

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community generally. Necessary buildings for domicils  
for the Americans and their native helpers were  
easily and fairly obtained by honorable negotiation;  
and land was acquired on which to erect the large  
hospital building for the accommodation of sick and  
wounded natives who required relief. The hospital  
building, built of brick and timber, was intended  
to be convenient and substantial, and suited to the  
requirements of a well established institution of the  
kind; while temporarily another building was used  
for hospital purposes until the new one could be  
erected.

Dr. Kerr, the Superintendent of the Canton Hospital  
had twice visited Kwai Ping to superintend medical  
and surgical affairs, and to perform any difficult  
surgical operations requiring great skill and care;  
and returned near the end of April 1886 to Canton,  
and reported to the American Minister and American  
Consul prospects of success for the Kwai Ping enterprise.

During the first week of May 1886 some placards  
were displayed by some of the students and gentry  
near in the vicinity of Kwai Ping, threatening the  
destruction of the property of and injury to the foreigners  
and all connected with the Medical Mission, Hospital  
and Station, on the eighth day of May 1886.

The

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The Chinese authorities at Kwai Ping adopted no measures whatever to prevent the threatened mischief and outrages. On the morning of the sixteenth day (May 1886) a considerable number of soldiers had gathered at Kwai Ping to assist in doing honors to H. E. the Imperial Commissioner and other Chinese officials who would pass Kwai Ping that day en route toward the Southern Frontier, as Boundary Commissioners; and while the local authorities went up the river a few miles to meet the approaching visitors and official tourists, the Chinese soldiers, wearing the military uniform of China (sauntered one after another, into the inclosure of the American citizens' Fultons, by opening and removing the gate which stood in the way of admission, and commenced to pile fagots up against the door and building of the American citizens, the Fultons. When Mr. Fulton kindly remonstrated against such unfriendly proceedings, the soldiers quietly assured him they meant no harm, but their example was followed by a lawless rabble of natives, instigated by the gentry and students, and finally while Mr. Fulton cut off to the Magistrate's yamen for protection for his official and family, the buildings were looted and fired with no resistance whatever, on the part of the local authorities. The family of Mr. Fulton fled from

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from their domicile to save their lives, without being able to save clothing or valuables, while the buildings were looted, and destroyed by fire, in the absence of Mr. Fulton at the Magistrate's yamen.

After a separation of between two and three hours, the Fultons were enabled to get together, and were sent away in boats to Canton.

And here it is proper to refer to a passage in your Excellency's dispatch of 31<sup>st</sup> October 1886, received November 1<sup>st</sup> 1886, in which reference is made to the statements of General So of Kwang Si, and the Prefect of Chum Chow; and Magistrate at Kwai Ping, to the effect that Mr. Fulton said "that the articles" lost were not of much consequence, and "that" they were all safe and well - very fortunate, but } regard to the statements of Mr. Fulton there must have been either misunderstanding or misrepresentation; because Mr. Fulton merely expressed his thankfulness and joy that his wife (who was in a delicate condition of health, and within a month of her illness for the birth of a son, who was born in the following month of June) and daughter, and sister, and family attendants, were safe, and had not been destroyed in the flames of fire which burned their domicile and adjacent buildings; and while Mr. Fulton was thus expressing

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pressing his gratification over the safety of his family, thus by contrast merely indicated his love, and regard for his family, in comparison with whose life and safety, the loss of property was of little importance and considerations. The American Consul into such an expression of love and affection for his wife, daughter, and sister, by Mr. Fulton, may not be perverted dishonestly into a false statement about losses. Now Your Excellency will please bear in mind that humane, benign, benevolent and honorable purpose these American citizens, who went to Kwai Ping, caring nothing but kindness and usefulness to the people, who seemed friendly, did nothing to provoke the rage of students or gentry; and should have been protected by the Chinese soldiers who first trespassed on the premises of the Fultons, and set the bad example piling up fagots against the door of the domicile which the unoffending wife, daughter, and sister Mr. Fulton were residing; and from which they bravely escaped to avoid being burned alive.

The responsibility and liability of the Chinese Authorities clearly demonstrated in the negligence of the local authorities to prevent the execution of threats published placards on the walls by students and gentry; and responsibility and liability of the Chinese Authorities are

emphasized and established beyond a doubt, by the fact that the trespass and outrages were commenced and inaugurated by soldiers wearing Chinese military uniform, and supposed to be obedient or subject to the control of Chinese officials, who must have encouraged or permitted outrages against foreigners, who were living peacefully in a community which received many benefits and no harm from these kind and useful American citizens. The trouble did not arise from any alleged or real grievance or dissatisfaction among the inhabitants of Kwaï Ping against these foreigners, toward whom and the people there prevailed apparently good feeling and friendly relations in conformity with the humane and useful service in which the Americans were engaged, but <sup>by</sup> the mischievous influence of placards issued and published by students and gentry in another locality.

Probably no harm would have occurred, if the local authorities had promptly suppressed the mischievous placards

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hazards; or directed the soldiers to prevent injury  
property, which was first menaced or jeopardized  
by the bad example and lawlessness of Chinese soldiers.

These are points which can not be denied, jus-  
tified or explained away.

More than a year has now transpired, and  
during that time Mr. Fulton has thrice been to Kwai-  
Ping, under the assurances given in Your Excellency's  
dispatches that orders had been given to the local  
Magistrate at Kwai Ping to adopt vigorous measures  
to detect and punish the evildoers, to restore the property,  
and to give Mr. Fulton protection; but Mr. Fulton has  
on each and every time told by the Kwai Ping  
Magistrate that no such orders have been received  
from Your Excellency; and has again, again, and again  
returned to Canton to assure the American Consul  
of the actual condition of affairs, which certainly  
is not what they should be, after the assurances  
given by Your Excellency. Your Excellency's dispatch  
of



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1. August 14<sup>th</sup> 1886, was so satisfactory to the American Minister and Government that it was widely published (America), as evidence of the good faith and honorable policy of China; and now it is hoped, Your Excellency will not compel the American Consul to inform his Government Your Excellency's appointment.

As to the facts of the losses sustained by the Fultons, and the American Presbyterian Mission, and the Medical Mission Hospital, at Kwai Ping by the tragedy of May 6<sup>th</sup> 1886, we are prepared to go into proof of the actual losses as claimed, amounting over five thousand and three hundred dollars.

The extent and approximate value of the property transferred from Canton to Kwai Ping is well known to a large number of residents of Canton, who have seen the property in the Canton domicile of the Fultons, and loaded into three large boats for transit to Kwang Si.

The

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The money sent by the Treasurer of the American Presbyterian Mission and expended in building a hospital at Kwai Ping can be satisfactorily proven. The expenditure of that money for the purpose specified can also be proven to Your Excellency's satisfaction. Now will Your Excellency have the fairness and justice to consent to an early and honorable adjustment and settlement of these claims? A copy of your dispatch of August 1<sup>st</sup> 1886 is herewith inclosed. Is there any proof needed upon any point stated?

The American Consul has received from His Excellency, Minister Denby, within the past few days request for information in regard to this case, and it is respectfully requested that Your Excellency will promptly and favorably settle the matter in the spirit of equity, honor, and justice.

With renewed assurances of highest esteem, the American Consul sends compliments and good.

Charles Seymour  
Consul of the United States of America.

very glad that Your Honorable Country has decided  
to pay indemnities to the Chinese who suffered  
injuries in Rock-Spring, which is very just;  
but in this case many of the Chinese were killed  
and much of their property were destroyed, which  
can not be compared with the two cases of  
Kwai Ping and Tseng Yuen, but these two cases  
should be immediately and satisfactorily settled  
by their respective local authorities.

With compliments etc.

(signed) Chang,  
Viceroy of the Two Guangs.

Translation (Copy)  $\frac{2}{B}$

Viceroy's Chamber  
Aug. 14<sup>th</sup> 1888

To His Honor

Charles Seymour

U. S. Consul, Canton,

Sir;

Upon receiving Your Honorable Consul's dispatch (here the contents of the dispatch are quoted) I the Viceroy found, in regard to the case of the U. S. citizen Mr. Fulton who suffered losses in the Kwai Ping district in Kwang Si, that orders have been repeatedly sent to the Kwai Ping Magistrate to investigate and immediately attend to the affair <sup>about</sup> which I have already answered Your Honorable Consul.

As to the case of the American Presbyterian and Baptist Missionaries who were disturbed by native ruffians, it is found, by looking over the dispatches that this was the case of the American Mission Chapel which was disturbed in the Tseng Yuen district in the 10<sup>th</sup> year of Kwang Si (=1884) and orders have been <sup>repeatedly</sup> sent to the Tseng Yuen Magistrate to clearly investigate and satisfactorily attend to the affair. Now besides ordering the Kwai Ping and Tseng Yuen Magistrates to thoroughly investigate and satisfactorily attend to these affairs and of protection, I the Viceroy herewith reply to Your Honorable Consul. Moreover I the Viceroy am

JUL 25 1987

SUBJECT:

## ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

Copy of Fees transmitted as required  
by Department's dispatch No. 90.

No. 124

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

The Honorable

June 15<sup>th</sup> 1887  
James D. Porter

Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor, in compliance with your dispatch No. 90, dated April 2<sup>nd</sup> 1887, to transmit herewith a Copy of the tariff of Consular Court Fees, now in use at this Consulate; and to state that very little use is made of Court proceedings here, as I have found it easier, cheaper, more expeditious, and more satisfactory to all concerned, to adjust differences between them interested than to resort to litigation. I am a believer in the pacific policy of adjusting differences

by friendly or amicable arbitration,  
as practiced successfully through-  
life by the eminent Silas  
Wright, of New York; who,  
although a lawyer, as well as  
farmer and statesman, left little  
or no business for the courts  
to transact in the vicinity of  
his home.

I practiced it myself while actively  
engaged in business as publisher,  
land and insurance affairs, &c.,  
without appearing or being cited in  
court, for a quarter of a century,  
either as plaintiff, defendant, or  
witness.

If permitted, I would respectfully  
suggest that the Fees in Cases of former's  
Inquest should be reduced and limited to  
a reasonable amount. I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour  
Mt. Lebanon.

1 Inclosure

Copy.

Regulations

For the Consular Court of the United States of America in China

In pursuance of Sec. 5<sup>th</sup> of the Act of Congress, approved June 22<sup>nd</sup> 1860, entitled "An Act to carry into effect certain provisions in the treaties between the United States, China, Japan, Siam, Persia, and other countries, giving certain judicial powers to Ministers and Consuls, or other functionaries of the United States in those countries, or for other purposes," I, Anson Burlingame, Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary of the United States to the Empire of China, do hereby decree the following rules and regulations for the guidance of the consular courts in China

Anson Burlingame,

Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to China,

Peking, April 23<sup>rd</sup> 1864.

Assented to

by Geo. F. Seward,

Consul General,

and all the U. S. Consuls in China.

(After and following fifteen pages, devoted to various court proceedings, Chapter XVII specifies Fees as follow.)



## Fees, In Consular Court—

In all cases where the amount in question  
is not more than \$500. - - - - - \$ 5.00.  
In all cases where it over \$500. - - - - - 15.00.  
In all cases where no specific damages are  
sought, the fee shall be \$5. for minor,  
and \$15. for greater cases.

### Clerk's Fees.—

For issuing all writs, warrants, attachments,  
or other compulsory process, - - - - - 1.50,  
For docketing every suit commenced, - - - 1.00.  
For executions, 1.00.  
For summonses, subpoenas and notices, 0.50,  
For all records at the rate of, for each hundred  
words, - - - - - 0.20,  
For drawing every notice, paper, order or  
process, not otherwise provided for, - - - 2.00.  
And if it exceeds 200 words, for every  
additional hundred words, - - - - - 1.00,  
For every seal to process issued, - - - - 1.00,  
For filing each paper upon the return of  
the Marshal, and all other papers filed in court, 0.10.

### Marshal's Fees.—

For apprehending a deserter and delivering  
him on board the vessel deserted from, to  
be paid by the vessel before leaving port, - - - 5.00.  
For searching for the same, and if not found,  
to be certified by the Consul, and on his order  
to be paid by the ship, - - - - - 2.00.

serving any writ, warrant, attachment, or other compulsory process, each person, —	\$ 2.00.
serving summons, —	1.00,
returning all notices, writs, attachments, warrants, and summonses, each, —	0.50.
each bail-bond, —	1.00,
every commitment or discharge of prisoner, —	2.00.
subpoenas, for each witness summoned, —	0.50,
returning subpoenas, —	0.25,
each day's attendance upon court, —	3.00,
laying execution, —	1.00,
advertising property for sale, —	2.00,
releasing property under execution, by order of Plaintiff, —	3.00,
selling property under execution, when the amount collected does not exceed \$1,000, —	5 per cent.
If over \$1,000, and not exceeding \$5,000, —	3 "
If over \$5,000, —	2 "
making collections under \$200, in cases where no adjudication has taken place, —	5 "
If the amount exceeds \$200 —	2½ "
Traveling fees in serving all process, each mile —	0.15.
serving every notice not heretofore provided for, in addition to the usual traveling fees, —	0.50,
Interpreter's Fees, —	
each day's attendance upon court —	3.00.
making translations, —	2.00.

If more than 200 words, for each additional hundred, - - - - - \$ 1.0

Witnesses' Fees.—

For every day's attendance at court, - - - - - 1.5

For each mile travelled in going to and returning from court, - - - - - 0.1

Crier's Fees.—

On trial of every suit, - - - - - 1.0

Citizen Associates' Fees.—

For each day's attendance, - - - - - 3.0

No.

125

Dr. H. Cla. 2

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

1887

Mr. Seymour

June 23<sup>rd</sup> 1887

To Department of State.

Serial 5 Aug. 87

SUBJECT:

Mori Ping outrages and Claims.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

Inclosing Copies of correspondence.



No. 125

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

to Honorable

June 23<sup>rd</sup> 1857  
James D. Porter  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir: I have the honor to transmit  
herewith Copy (marked B//), B//  
of a dispatch received on  
the 20<sup>th</sup> instant from His  
Excellency, Viceroy Chang Chi-tung;  
and a Copy of my reply thereto,  
dated 22<sup>nd</sup> instant, (marked C//), C//  
in regard to the Kun Ming  
Outrages and claims, referred  
to in my dispatch N<sup>o</sup>. 123,  
dated 14<sup>th</sup> instant, to the Depart-  
ment of State; and its inclosures,  
which were copies of dispatches  
from H. E. the Viceroy of the  
Two Kiangs on the same subject.

A perusal of the two dispatches  
 from H.E. the Viceroy, dated 14<sup>th</sup>  
 August 1886 and June 20<sup>th</sup>  
 1887, will convince one that  
 the evident purpose of H.E.  
 the Viceroy is to postpone or  
 evade settlement of just claims,  
 by interminable correspondence.  
 I have sent Copies of all  
 dispatches (to and from the Viceroy)  
 to the U.S. Legation at Peking;  
 and respectfully intimated  
 that some favorable influence  
 might be applied to H.E. the Viceroy  
 from the Imperial Government at Peking;  
 although the Viceroy treated the  
 "Fung Li Yamen" with contempt in  
 regard to River obstructions, and other  
 matters; as he is backed up by the  
 "Grand Council," of which his brother is a member  
 as well as Tutor or Teacher to the Emperor  
 Sam, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,  
 Charles Seymour McConse

(B/1) Translation (B/1) Viceroy's Yamen, Canton.  
June 20<sup>th</sup> 1887.

His Honor  
Charles Seymour,  
U. S. Consul, Canton

Having received Your Honorable Consul's dispatch stating that on May 6<sup>th</sup> 1886, the American citizen Mr. Fulton's property was destroyed by the natives, officers at Hwei Ping in the Province of Quang So and that there were threatening placards exhibited by the natives and hoped that this case to be justly, satisfactorily, and immediately settled, I the Viceroy (and) that dispatches have been repeatedly received from Your Honorable Consul about this affair, but I have already ordered the Hwei Ping Magistrate to have the case quickly and thoroughly settled, to have the evil doers tried and punished, and to have the lost articles restored; if Mr. Fulton should go to the said district, to protect him with all his power and to prohibit all placards exhibited, and to report the case clearly. I the Viceroy have all the dispatches which had been repeatedly sent, on hand to be examined and I have always been just and never partial in adjusting any affair between two countries, which I never delay. But no petition, or answer has been received from the said Magistrate, perhaps the case is rather difficult and has not

yet been clearly investigated. Besides again ordering and hastening the Kwei Ping Magistrate to have this case quickly and thoroughly investigated to have the evil doers tried and to have the lost articles restored. I herewith answer Your Honorable Consul. With compliments of the Season.

(Signed) Chang.  
Viceroy of the Two Quans



(C/1) Consulate of the United States of America, Canton.  
June 22<sup>nd</sup> 1887.

His Excellency

(C/1)  
"Chang"

Viceroy of the Two Guangs.

Sir,

The American Consul has the honor to acknowledge receipt of Your Excellency's dispatch of the 20<sup>th</sup> instant in regard to the Hwei Ping outrages that occurred over thirteen months ago; and most respectfully asks Your Excellency if this manner of postponing, delaying, or preventing a settlement of claims for damages sustained over a year ago by American citizens at the hands of Chinese soldiers and subjects, for the comparatively small sum of \$5,300 is justifiable.

If, after thirteen months, Your Excellency has found no good reason to decide the matter shall not be settled, it does seem unreasonable to postpone the matter any longer, especially since the Hwei Ping Magistrate tells Mr. Fulton that he has no orders from Your Excellency to settle this business or give him and his family protection.

The American Consul has again the honor to enclose a copy of Your Excellency's dispatch of August 4<sup>th</sup> 1886, and hopes that Your Excellency will no longer delay a settlement of these claims as promised.

That dispatch was widely published throughout

America as evidence of a purpose to adjust and settle these matters fairly and honorably.

With renewed assurances of esteem, the Amer. Consul sends compliments and cards

Charles Seymour  
Consul of the United States of America.

No. 126

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

1 1887



To Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Request for 60 days leave of absence.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

No. 126

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

The Honorable

James D. Porter June 23<sup>rd</sup> 1887

Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that leave of absence for sixty days may be granted to me at any time during the year 1887.

Such leave of absence in 1884 was granted to me in Department's dispatch N<sup>o</sup>. 242, dated December 24, 1883; and again for 1885 in Department's dispatch N<sup>o</sup>. 55, dated February 9<sup>th</sup> 1885—the latter also authorizing leave of absence for a visit to the United States.

I did not avail myself of either of those extended favors.

My health continued so good that there was no necessity for my absence from my post; and the unsettled or disturbed condition of affairs at Canton during 1883, 1884, & 1885, in Poonick Canton, and Southern China, made it very desirable that the United States Consul (and American Consul) should be able to act promptly in any emergency. Many, or nearly all of the consular officers at Canton, have been so ill as to be compelled to leave for sea-air to recover health.

I respectfully ask for this favor, (if possible, extended that it is availed of by me), which, if granted, will not be used without first considering obligations of duty, & demands of health.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,  
Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul.

No.

127

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

Mr. Seymour

June 30<sup>th</sup> 1887

To Department of State.

SUBJECT:

"Commercial Information."

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

N. 127 In Duplicate, with 16 Kg Samples.

No. 127

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.



June 30<sup>th</sup> 1887  
*Samuel D. Foster*

Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to supply  
the following items of "Commercial  
information".

Samples of Cloths used at Canton  
are herewith transmitted to the Department  
of State, marked and numbered from  
#1 to #25, with cost and selling prices,  
widths, and uses of the same, stated on tags.  
These samples are not sent with  
the expectation that similar or better  
cloths can be made in America,  
or elsewhere, for Chinese at and about  
Canton; but to let American manufacturers  
and merchants understand the styles  
of goods in use for clothing in this part of China.  
The styles of cloths for garments  
vary according to localities, as much  
as their dialects, or various kinds of boats.

4/ Cotton cloths of various colors are used for quilted and unquilted garments in Winter by the masses; and "grass cloth," made from the fiber of the bamboo tree, are largely used by all classes in Summer. The well-to-do or wealthy Chinese use silk clothing much in Winter.

The width of the native or domestic cloth is about one Chinese foot, which is nearly 15 English inches.

These goods are sold by the foot. The prices quoted are based on Mexican Silver Dollars Currency; and the measurements are stated in English Yards.

It will be almost an impossibility to get the nation of China to abandon their old cherished Customs as to their garments; and therefore these samples may be regarded as the Canton styles of goods used for clothing by Cantonese.



## Progress in River Navigation. Important Changes.

Presently there have been some great changes going on in the navigation of passenger-junks between Canton and various villages, distant ten to forty miles, along the numerous water-ways, and if later innovations are tolerated and continued, they will soon be extended, until several hundred miles of navigable rivers will be open to steam-fleets of light draught, such as steam-launches and steam-tugs.

The Chinese junks, which have been in use for many centuries, without much change or improvement, are yet, and always will be, in use along the Coast and on the rivers.

Thousands of these clumsy looking junks, with bamboo sails, tree-fibre cordage, wooden anchors pointed with iron, and huge rudders, and house in the rear elevated above the water, are to be seen on the Canton or Pearl River, and its large tributaries or branches; and always operated with marvelous skill and precision.

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Seldom do they get into collisions with ~~one another~~ <sup>each other</sup>; although, at and below Canton, they occasionally come into contact with foreign steamships.

The junk-owners and native navigators begin to understand that the expenses and <sup>caused</sup> damages of such collisions are generally defrayed by the owners of the steamships.

The tide is felt, favorably or unfavorably, for a distance of forty miles above Canton.

The first step toward improvement in speed of passenger boats above or beyond Canton commenced about five years ago, in the form of a stern-wheel craft, on which a sail could be quickly hoisted to catch favoring winds.

They were propelled by men-power, "coolie-p

Three rows of Coolies in each row (15 in all), with a tread-mill movement, propel these stern-wheel boats about six miles per hour with the tide, or about three or four miles against the tide per hour; and ~~each of~~ <sup>each of</sup> these boats <sup>can</sup> carry from fifty to two hundred passengers, on an average, in half of the sailing junk's time on the same route, with much regularity.

K

The success of the "stern-wheelers" has ushered into active operation a stern-wheel fleet of about a dozen boats or passenger packets between Canton and the villages. No further improvement in speed was anticipated; as the combination of boat and labor guilds threatened to prevent steam-vessels from going above or beyond Canton; and the Chinese authorities asserted their right to confiscate any and all steamboats or steam launches that transpired on the rivers above this port.

However, one after another, the steam-launches, without sanction, license, or authority, have been employed to tow the passenger junks between Canton and various places within forty miles distance, since last March or April; and now there are about ten of these steam launches serving the passenger junks as steam-tugs, at a speed of from six to ten miles per hour, to the evident satisfaction of crowds of passengers.

It is a matter of much uncertainty whether this steam transportation will be suddenly stopped by boat guilds, or by Confiscation on the part of the Mandarin; or allowed to extend into a general system of steam navigation on the rivers above and beyond Canton.

This transformation has been sudden; and its effects are visible.

If permitted to expand into a new era of steam communication between Canton and the interior, it will surely tend to enlarge the consumption and use, by the natives, of many foreign commodities of commerce, which are now measurably restricted to the Coast and Treaty Ports of Southern China.

It will also have a tendency to create a prevalent desire to increase facilities for communication, by other than water routes; and thus, step by step, this slow and conservative people will catch the spirit of the age, and begin to keep step with the music of progress.

## Important Custom House Changes.

On and after July 1<sup>st</sup> 1887, the system of native custom houses & in Canton and the Sea-board will be abolished; and the cargoes of native junks will be subject to the same treatment that is given to cargoes by foreign and foreign-like steamships and steamboats; and the duties will be collected by the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs Department, which has been so ably conducted, for the past fourth of a century, by foreign Custom House officials, under the excellent management of Sir Robert Hart; whose head quarters are at Peking; and the operations of whose department extend to all of the Treaty Ports of China.

187

Under the new system of consolidating the entire business of collecting duties from imports and exports, per foreign and native vessels, by the foreign customs officials of China, we shall have more accurate returns of Commerce at this Port; and the old plan of "farming out" or selling the "Collection Districts" for duties on cargoes of native junk, will be ended; with its crookedness, secrecy, and general unreliability.

It is a practical recognition of the relative efficiency of the foreign and native systems of business, by the Government of China; where foreigners are employed and liberally paid to collect the revenues of the Government on imports and exports; because they faithfully and accurately deliver to the Government of China the money collected for duties, after the old system failed because of the leakages, evaporation, and waste of public funds from the Ports and Ports.

This entire system of nearly all Chinese officials and Comptrollers, entrusted with money, of taking toll every time it changes hands, is so prevalent or universal, that it is almost impossible to find an instance of a sum of money being received and paid out or disbursed for the same account; or without diminution as it goes from hand to hand, and from scales to scales.

The prejudice of the Chinese rulers against foreigners is overcome so far, as to know that when the public funds pass through the hands of the foreigners who collect the revenues of the Government, the money reaches the Treasury of the Nation, or the hands of those who are authorized to control the National Treasury; while the only plan of getting the money to Peking from native Custom House stations and Districts was to sell the "Collection Districts" out to Syndicates of speculators for round and fixed ~~sums~~ sums of money paid in advance.

Furthermore, by negotiation and diplomacy, the British "Free Port" of Hong Kong, and the Portuguese Port of Macao, have become Custom House and Le Ki Tai District Station of China; and now, before Opium or Kerosene (and perhaps other commodities) can be shipped to Canton from the "Free Port" of Hong Kong, the certificate of payment of Chinese Customs must first be obtained.

Virtually, practically, and really, this condition of things is nearly equivalent to making the Ports of Hong Kong and Macao appendages of China.

Of the gentlemen selected for the intricate and delicate duties of the Imperial Maritime Customs of China, it should be said they reflect credit upon foreigners generally, by the efficiency, integrity, fidelity, and tact, with which the business of the foreign branch of the Customs of China is successfully operated.



7

### Canton Trade Reports.

The official returns and reports of the Imperial Maritime Customs of China for 1886 are now being given to the public. From these it appears that the total net value of the trade of the Port of Canton under foreign flags, and in vessels of foreign type under the Chinese flag, (not including native junks, which reported to the Chinese Syndicates, and purchasers of the Collection Districts for duties on cargoes of native vessels, respecting which the utmost secrecy is observed) amounted to over \$56,000,000 - being an increase of \$13,000,000 over that of 1885.

Revenue The total revenue Collections at the (foreign) Maritime Customs in Canton, during 1886, amounted to \$1,800,000.

Shipping The total tonnage of 3,159 foreign and "foreign-type" vessels (including eight river steamers running regularly between Canton and the Ports of Hong Kong and Macao) amounted to 2,586,689 tons.

2/

Of this tonnage, a classification by  
Flags, (including 7 British and Chinese  
river steamers, running between  
Canton and the ports of Canton and Haikow), is  
British ~~294.948 tons~~ 2.176.740 tons,  
Chinese 294.948 tons,  
German 106.197 " ,  
Danish 4.614 " ,  
Swedish & Norwegian 2.388 " ,  
Italian 1.084 " ,  
Siamese .718 " ,

Of this total tonnage, only 18,352  
tons were sailing vessels.

Imports of Foreign Articles \$  
The total imports at Canton in 1886 (foreign products  
and ships) = \$7,600,000, which was a reduction  
of \$930,000 from those of 1885.

The prominent items of imports were.  
Opium 142,680 lbs valued at \$610,000.  
Cotton Goods (not including yarn & raw cotton) \$820,000 (\$1,200,000)  
Cotton Yarn valued at \$1,100,000  
Raw Cotton " " \$430,000  
Lead in pigs " " \$200,000  
Buttle fish " " \$600,000  
Wheat flour " " \$350,000  
Rhino horns & Elephant teeth &c \$225,000

5.

Sedestones	valued at	\$260,000
Metals (brass, lead) "	"	\$210,000
Eyes	"	\$150,000
Wheat	"	\$125,000

### Imports of Native Products.

Silk	valued at	\$2,600,000
Blankets and native cloth	\$	600,000
Beans & Peas (from Northern China)	\$2,000,000	
Medicines ( " " )	\$	600,000
Ginseng ( " " )	\$	260,000
Horns of Deer, Chamels, buffaloes &c.	\$	475,000
Rice (to supply deficiency caused by floods of 1885)	\$	9,500,000
Tobacco	valued at	\$160,000
Wheat from Northern China	\$	800,000
Total value of imports of native products	=	\$20,000,000.

### Items of Exports.

The total value of Exports were \$30,000,000;  
of which  $17/20$  <sup>ths</sup> are to foreign Countries & ports;  
and  $3/10$  <sup>ths</sup> to Chinese ports.

Silk Exports	were	\$19,000,000
Tea	"	\$1,600,000
Buttons, Bayles, beads, <sup>"armlets"</sup> <del>and</del> (to India)	\$	600,000
Cassia	\$	150,000
Chinese Clothing	\$	1,250,000
Fire Crackers	\$	900,000
Grass Cloth (from tree fibres)	\$	200,000
Indigo	\$	225,000
Matting	\$	700,000

✓ Paper — \$ 300.000

Porcelain and ornaments \$ 225.000

Chinese shoes \$ 170.000

Sugar — \$ 575.000

Tobacco (prepared) \$ 250.000

Jade stone ornaments \$ 150.000

Rubber Candles \$ 165.000

Anti-Foreign Policy in Southern China  
The Viceroy, or Governor General, of the Provinces of "Kuang-tung" and "Kuangsi" (the two Southern Provinces of China, embraced in this Consular District), maintains the same unflinching and uncompromising anti-foreign policy, which has made "Chang Chih-tung" as noted for intense hostility to foreigners and foreign interests; as he is eminent for Chinese scholarship, and Oriental attainments, and Asiatic resources.

The "Ship-Channel" between Canton and the Sea remains closed against the Commerce of the World.

Interior "transit-trade" is seriously encumbered by intolerable exactions and many obstructions.

Foreigners cannot obtain any  
 indemnity, redress, or satisfaction,  
 for losses sustained at the hands  
 of mobs, (instigated and led in  
 some cases by Chinese soldiers,  
 as was the case in Kwang Si  
 May 6<sup>th</sup> 1886); and, regardless  
 of treaty limitations as to duties  
 to be levied on imports of foreign  
 commodities, severe厘金  
 taxes are imposed on kerosene,  
 (and other articles of commerce,)   
 equivalent to about 35% per barrel  
 paid on kerosene.

Consuls are powerless to resist  
 these anti-foreign measures, but  
 a determined purpose, on the part  
 of the Government of civilized  
 Nations of the West, to prevent  
 such unfriendly acts as  
 closing natural highways  
 of commerce in a time of  
 peace; and imposing special  
 prohibitory taxes upon many  
 and beneficent commodities of commerce,  
 would soon terminate this anti-foreign  
 policy, which obstructs commercial  
 operations between Southern China and foreign Nations.

Respectfully submitting  
the foregoing statements to the  
Department of State,  
I am, Sir,  
Your obedient servant  
Charles Leonard  
W. Leonard

No. 128

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

Mr. Seymour

July 12 - 1887

To Department of State

SUBJECT:

Transmitting Account and Returns.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

Canton, China  
July 12, 1887  
Charles Seymour M. C.  
Transmitting Account  
Vouchers and Returns  
for June Quarter 18  
6 Inclosures

No.

128

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

The Honorable

July 12<sup>th</sup> 1887

Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit  
herewith Account, Vouchers, and  
Returns, as required, to June 30, 1887.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour  
McJannet

Enclosures viz:

1. Quarterly Account.
2. Four sets of Vouchers.
3. Digest of Invoice Book.
4. Summary of Business. (Canton & Swatow)
5. Aggregate of Fees for Fiscal Year.
6. Record of Notarial Services.

July  
12. 1887



*Cov.*  
No.

129

*J. H. Cline*



United States Consulate  
Canton, China.



*Mr. Seymour*

*July 20<sup>th</sup> 1887*

*To Department of State.*

SUBJECT:

*Reduction of Kerosene & Kin-tax.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

*Kin-tax reduced from \$1.30 to \$0.75 per case.*

*Information sent to process some days since*

No. 129

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

The Honorable

July 20<sup>th</sup> 1887  
*Amos D. Tarter*

Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

I have the honor to inform you  
that yesterday I telegraphed to Consul  
General Wm. H. Murray, Shanghai, as follows.  
" Canton. "  
" Consul General Wm. H. Murray. "  
" Shanghai. "  
" Please inform Legation and "  
" Department reduction Kerosene "  
" Lekin-tax from one dollar "  
" thirty cents to fifty cents case. "  
" Seignior. "

The Chinese authorities pitched  
their tone so high, they stopped  
the matter; or expected such a  
Lekin-tax on Kerosene as to nearly stop importation.

2

The Chinese Official proclamation which announced the additional lekin of ninety cents, besides the previous lekin of forty cents, making a total lekin of \$1.30 per case of Kerosene, in addition to duty, spoke strongly about the hazardous nature of Kerosene, and the injury its importation inflicted upon the market price or value of native oil; but the fact is revealed that the high lekin-tax was imposed as a financial measure solely.

The importation of that commodity almost ceased under the severe lekin-tax; and this reduction from \$1.30 to 50¢ per case is sure to revive the importations vigorously; as Kerosene was becoming scarce, and sold for \$2.50 per Case, in small lots.

The manner of announcing the reduction was the best possible indication of humiliation as to the failure of the opium tax; which extinguished revenue.

Knowing there was distress in the "Kerene monopoly" and "Lekin officials" over the failure of the expected revenue; and that a break or modification was imminent, I went to the Custom House and Consulate, in search of information last Friday (15th instant); but failed to learn any facts.

Yesterday I sent the Interpreter of the Consulate to the "Lekin Commission Yamen" to ascertain definitely the intention of the Authorities as to the Lekin-tax on Kerene. The Interpreter brought back a little red paper, on which was printed, from a wooden block of letters, a notice from the "Kerene Guild", announcing reduction of the Kerene Lekin-tax, as stated, from and after July 18th 1887.

4/

A similar notice was received at another Consulate which also sought information on the subject. A large Chinese merchant who sells considerable kerosene told me today of the reduction of Le Kin; and thus there seems to be no doubt that the matter is becoming known.

Today I have requested H. C. McCreary, and also the Board of Le Kin Commissioners, to confirm and authenticate the Guild's announcement; as I think the Consulates are entitled to a clear official announcement of the change; which affects an important item of Commerce; and should be so plainly made known, as to prevent any misunderstanding or trouble in any of the interior transit routes beyond Suifu.

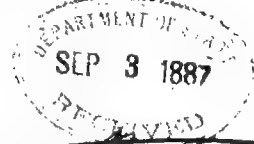
I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour

W. D. Fernald

*Cons.*  
No. *130*

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.



*July 28-1887*

*To Department of State.*

SUBJECT:

*Lekin-taxes on Kerosine, and other items  
of [Signature] and [Signature]*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS: *interior trade.*

*Transmitting Proclamation reducing Lekin-tax on Kerosene.*

*Action of Authorities about Lekin taxes, & transit trade.*

No. 130

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

The Honorable

James D. Porter

Assistant Secretary of State.

Washington, D. C.

July 28<sup>th</sup> 1897

Sir: -- I have the honor to transmit herewith (marked A.) a copy of the translation, into English, of the Official Proclamation of the Chinese Board of S'kin Commissioners in Canton, for the reduction of the skin-tax on Kerosene, from one dollar and thirty cents per case, to fifty cents per case; of which mention was made in my dispatch of 20<sup>th</sup> instant, numbered 129, to which please refer. This Proclamation has been publicly exposed on the walls of frequented thoroughfares in Canton, as usual in important official announcements.

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The Consulate has not been furnished with Copies of the Proclamation; probably because the Chinese Authorities have assumed that Lekin-tapes are not subject to the consideration or action of foreigners, and affect only Chinese subjects.

However, the Proclamation bears the official authority of five high Chinese Officials in their capacity of the Board of Lekin Commissioners, composed of the following - viz: H.E. Provincial Treasurer, "Gau"; H.E. Provincial Judge, "Wong"; H.E. Salt Commissioner, "Ying"; H.E. Grain Intendant, "Lee"; H.E. Acting Foatai, "Lin"; with the approval of H.E. the Viceroy, and H.E. the Governor.



The authenticity of this Proclamation is important for several reasons. 1<sup>st</sup> Because it affects an item of Commerce of much value. 2<sup>nd</sup> Because it is an official acknowledgment of having stopped, measurably, the importation and use of a beneficent commodity, the utility of which has become so generally recognized, that it was subjected to an exorbitant levy for revenue solely; while the pretext assigned for the excessive taxation was the necessity of preventing the importation of a hazardous Explosive which caused the destruction of much property; and the protection of native kerosene oil from competition with foreign Kerosene; all of which was clearly and conspicuously set forth in the Proclamations of November 18<sup>th</sup> and December 18<sup>th</sup> 1886, on pages 559 and 560 of the published Bureau Report of March 1887.

The noticeable features of this last Proclamation of July 18<sup>th</sup> 1887, which reduces the skin-tax on Kerosene from \$1.30 to 50¢ per case, are —  
 1<sup>st</sup> that no mention or intimation appears regarding "the hazardous nature of Kerosene"; and 2<sup>nd</sup> — that no concern whatever is manifested as to the effects of increased importations of Kerosene upon "native sea-sunt oil"; — and 3<sup>rd</sup> that this reduction of the skin-tax on Kerosene is made for the avowed purpose of driving revenue by increasing importations; as minutely stated in the lengthy preamble, which recites the petition of the purchasers of the monopoly, and the reasons of their inability to pay any revenue unless the exorbitant or excessive skin-tax ceased. The agreement of the Contractor to pay \$100,000 for the monopoly per year leaves him to get his profit on the excess of 200,000 Cases.

It should be distinctly stated that this Proclamation No. 3, dated July 18, 1887, is based on the facts set forth in its preamble, in the form of the petition of the Kerosene syndicate or monopoly; which explicitly declares the achievement or attainment of the objects or ends mentioned as pretext for the two former Proclamations, and thus is clearly established the fact that the excessive or extortionate levy of \$1.30 per case on Kerosene was imposed for revenue purposes solely; and defeated itself by inordinate or unreasonable demands.

Another important fact is disclosed, which is worthy of attention - viz: that while the Chinese authorities at Canton effectually drove legitimate traffic away from the great Commercial metropolis.

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of Southern China, by imposing excessive and extortionate lekin-tax on one of the most useful and beneficent commodities of Commerce; the interior of the populous Southern Provinces of Kwang-tung and Kwang-si was supplied by kerosene, which, under the "Transit Pass" system, was conveyed five or six hundred miles up the river Yangtze, from Shanghai to Kiu-kiang and Hankow; and thence carried <sup>from five to eight hundred miles</sup> inland southward, and by smaller tributaries of the Yangtze and Canton Rivers, to the rear districts of these two Southern Provinces; whose natural gateway of Commerce had been closed by the action of the Chinese authorities at Canton.

Nearly all kinds of foreign piece goods are similarly affected; and seek markets by the expensive and circuitous route described, over which kerosene reached the interior; but the lekin-tax is not severe as that which was imposed upon kerosene.

When the Consuls at Canton  
 united in 1885, & combined in an  
 effort to get the facilities for  
 interior transit trade between  
 the ports of Canton, Amoy,  
 and Pakhoi, and the interior,  
 as negotiated at Peking between  
 the Foreign Legation and the  
 Foreign Office ("Tsungli Yamen"),  
 the Viceroy of the Two Kuangs  
 declined to state the locations  
 or numbers of the Likin stations,  
 or the aggregate of Likin-taxes  
 to which any of the various  
 commodities of commerce would  
 be subjected in transit,  
 between any of these ports  
 and the interior; & he flatly  
 declined to make any  
 concessions or limitations,  
 whatever regarding Likin-taxes;  
 and repeatedly avowed  
 "such matters affect only  
 Chinese subjects; and do  
 not concern foreigners."

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It certainly should not be in the power of any local official to thus render nugatory the provisions of Treaties between friendly Nations for Commercial intercourse; and close an important sea-port against direct trade; and thus the great natural highway between Canton and the sea barred against inter-National Commerce; and if foreign Powers unitedly demanded a discontinuance of this official piracy against the Commerce of the World, it would soon be abandoned, as an unjustifiable policy toward foreigners and foreign interests.

I am, Sir,  
 Your Obedient Servant,  
 Charles Seymour  
 U.S. Consul

$\left(\frac{3}{A}\right)$  Kerosene Proclamation. July 18<sup>th</sup> 1887.

It is proclaimed as Chang Shin Ying the farmer of the kerosene lekin monopoly saying that we the merchants "had farmed out the kerosene lekin monopoly for several years and had never been in arrears in paying the farm tax. This year the farm tax is altogether \$5,000. It has been ordered that a lekin of forty cents is to be fixed and levied. Upon investigation it is found that on each box of kerosene there is already a customs duty of 1 mace and 4.4 candareens (or 20 cents), and a lekin of 2 mace and 8.8 candareens (or 40 cents) and now a lekin of 6 mace (or 34 cents) is to be added for appropriating searching and arresting funds, makes the lekin amounts to 1.032 taels (or \$1.44) But kerosene is bought in Hong Kong at \$1.50 per box, so the levy is comparatively the greater, and if a box of kerosene is smuggled 1.032 taels (or \$1.44) is lost. Therefore since last ~~year~~ Winter, the levy has been very <sup>small</sup> ~~few~~, and smuggled goods have been increased, as kerosene has been packed separately and transferred up here by coolies with forty or 50 boxes at a time, from Shaki in the district of Kiangshan, Shatan in the district of Namhai, and Shatlong in the district of Tungmoon. When we the merchants asked them why they did not have lekin paid on the kerosene, they replied that the kerosene was for the use of the foreign Hongs, but how can the foreign Hongs use so much kerosene as 40 or 50 boxes every day? It is evident that this was done with the intention of carrying on smuggling. Lately the transportation of smuggled kerosene are guarded by ruffians armed with rifles. We the merchants have only four policemen on the search, how can they dare to fight against their enemies. During this half a year we have supplied a deficit of between 40,000 and 50,000 taels. We the merchant being insignificant citizens and having not much property would not

"not be able to supply the deficiency, even if we should"  
 "sell all our property and should be stripped to the bone."  
 "Now it is evident that if measures will not be soon"  
 "adopted, we will be immediately ruined. Moreover,"  
 "it is found that the kerosene sold in the vicinity of"  
 "Peikou along to the vicinity of Nankhung (i. e., places"  
 "at the northern part of Kwang Tung) are transported"  
 "from Shanghai and Kin Kiang - this was evidently done"  
 "to avoid the extra lekin of 6 mace or 84 cents, so it appears"  
 "that the smuggling of kerosene can not be stopped."  
 "Now there is only one way - that is to reduce the"  
 "lekin which will probably put a stop to the smuggling."  
 "We the merchants are forced to request that the"  
 "extra lekin of 6 mace on each box which Your Excellency"  
 "has ordered to levy for searching and seizing funds,"  
 "should be reduced to ten cents and collected by our"  
 "firm which will probably result in an increase"  
 "of collection of lekin - in this case we are willing"  
 "to pay an additional sum of \$37,000 every year."  
 "Besides it makes matters easy to manage as we"  
 "will pay an annual sum of \$100,000 at 7 mace towards"  
 "the fund for coast defense and for searching and arresting."  
 "The payments will be made according to regulation"  
 "and additional proportion will be made for intercalary"  
 "Moon, but if there should be any thing happening it should"  
 "be allowed that we can withdraw from this business."  
 "If we should be favored by your permission, we beg"  
 "that proclamations might be soon issued and orders"  
 "might be given to all the lekin stations to the effect, that"  
 "hereafter the lekin for seizing and searching will be levied"  
 "by our firm so as to avoid a repetition of levying."  
 "We the merchants have supplied the losses during these"  
 "few months; if the proclamations could be issued a day"  
 "earlier then we will supplied the losses by a day less."  
 If



"It is well known that Your Excellency has a 'fity'  
"for the merchants and an attachment to the people,"  
"may we permitted to report matters clearly and "  
"reverently wait for your favored permission, then we  
"will be ever so grateful."

Upon receipt of this it is found that orders had been given and proclamations had been issued that all the Lkin stations should levy 6 mace on each box of kerosene for searching and arresting funds but since this extra Lkin on kerosene went into effect, smuggled goods have been increased and the collection of Lkin in all Lkin stations has been very limited, the statements uttered by those merchants are very reasonable, so that the affair should be changed so as to enable it to be easily managed. Besides asking the permission of His Excellency (the Viceroy and the Governor) and distributing orders to all places, it is proclaimed that all the dealers in kerosene should know that the extra Lkin on kerosene for searching and arresting funds is to be levied by the merchant Chang Shun Ying the farmer of the kerosene Lkin monopoly. Now an extra Lkin of ten cents is to be levied on each box of kerosene, so all the kerosene dealers should follow the order and pay the Lkin, no concealment and smuggling allowed and if there should be any crafty merchants who make a circuitous route around a Lkin station for the purpose of smuggling and has not a Lkin ticket and a searching and arresting tax ticket from the merchant Chang Shun Ying as a proof, the goods shall be confiscated, as usual in order to stop smuggling and the persons who smuggled shall be severely punished, no pardon allowed, the employees and the policemen of the said merchants shall not demand any extra money from kerosene dealers and disturbances should be created all should obey  
with

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with <sup>it</sup>trembling respect and not trespass against  
 this order. (Signed)  
 Commissioners of the Kwang Tung Likin Head Office }  
 Issued July 18<sup>th</sup> 1887. }  
 Treasurer --- Sun  
 Judge --- Wang  
 Salt Comm --- Ying  
 Grain Intendant --- Lee  
 Inspector Tai --- Lin

(See the Contruction or "farmer's" notice  
 on next page)

Kerosene Farmer's notice. July 18<sup>th</sup> 1887,

Notice that our firm has been ordered by His Excellencies (the Viceroy and the Governor) commencing from July 18<sup>th</sup> 1887, that ten cents are to be levied on each box of kerosene weighing 50 catties for searching and arresting funds.

The former extra lekin of 6 mace or 84 cents is now taken off, so here after both the lekin and the tax for searching and arresting funds are to be levied by our firm. All the merchants and dealers should know that the tax for searching and arresting funds has been greatly reduced and it is greatly hoped that you all will follow the right path so as to be in accordance with the wish of His Excellencies.

Reward.

If any one has detected any smuggled kerosene or detected any shop which has purchased smuggled kerosene and should report to our firm, he will be rewarded with \$1.50 at 7 mace (or 77 cents to a dollar) for every box.

If any smuggled kerosene transferred from Shamien into any boat or transferred into the streets, they will be seized by detectives as soon as they are beyond the boundary of Shamien.

Chay On Tong  
Farmer of the Kwang Tung Kerosene Lekin Monopoly.

No.

131

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

Clear



Mr. Seymour

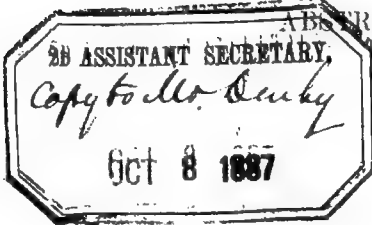
August 13<sup>th</sup> 1887

To Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Proclamation against Steam Launches

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:



Oct. 17, 87  
Cecil

ac  
Oct 13

No. 131

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

August 13<sup>th</sup> 1887



Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith (marked  $\frac{1}{A}$ ) an English translation of a Chinese official Proclamation, issued a short time ago, against the further use of steam-launches in transportation, or towing of junks, and boats, between Canton and points in the interior, accessible by Canton or Pearl river, and its tributaries at and above Canton; to which reference was made, on pages 5 and 6, of my dispatch No. 127, dated June 30<sup>th</sup> 1887; when steam-launches were in great requisition.

$\frac{1}{A}$

In that dispatch I stated—

"It is a matter of much uncertainty"  
 "whether this steam transportation will be"  
 "suddenly stopped by boat-guilds, or by"  
 "confiscation on the part of the Mandarins,"  
 "or allowed to extend into a general system"  
 "of steam navigation on the rivers"  
 "above and beyond Canton. This transformation"  
 "has been sudden; and its effects are visible."

This Proclamation firmly forbids  
 any such progressive means of  
 transportation as the Chinese seemed  
 strongly disposed to establish; and  
 indicates the anti-progressive policy of  
 H.E. the Viceroy of the Two Kiangs,  
 who is recognized throughout the  
 Chinese Empire as a distinguished scholar.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,

Charles Raymond  
 W. H. Johnson

Proclamation. August 2<sup>nd</sup> 1887.

Prohibiting steam launches towing junks into the Interior.

Let it be proclaimed that on July 24<sup>th</sup> 1887, a dispatch was received from H. E. Viceroy Chang saying that the Viceroy have heard that the junks of all districts have hired steamtugs to tow them to and from Canton, and I have ordered Brigadier General Wong of my guard to have the matter investigated and reported. Now the said General has petitioned, saying that there are altogether 11 steamtugs towing junks to and from the district of Sin Wai, Shuntak, Kowk & Chau and so forth. Among the steamtugs, some were purchased by the junk owners and some were hired from Hong Kong. Upon investigation, I the Viceroy find that foreign steamers are not allowed to go into the interior privately for carrying on business. Those who trespass against this rule, their ship and cargo will be confiscated. The laws are very strict. How can such inconsiderate acts be allowed?

But as to the Chinese merchants using steamtugs to tow junks to and from the Interior, there has never been such thing done before in this Province of Kwang Tung.

Suppose it is an advantage to the merchants, it should be petitioned before-hand to see how much tariff will be required and whether it is of any hinderance to the rest of the junk trade, and wait for the orders. Those junk merchants have not yet petitioned, and have not yet obtained permission, and are now using steamtugs to tow junks to and from the interior, and are really very bold and care-less. So they have trespassed against the law, and should be seized and punished, so as to warn others from following their example. Now orders have been given to the Prefect so that he may work together with the two Brigadier Generals (i.e. Gen. Wong & Gen. Tang) and distribute reliable officers to go to Whampoa and all places in the interior to search for such steamtugs and if there is any steam-tug towing junks in any place, that has not the dragon flag on,

no matter whether by Chinese or foreign merchant, the steam-tug and the junk shall be brought to Canton and confiscated. At the same time, proclamations should be issued and orders should be given to the subordinate officers to strictly forbid that such act will be repeated so that they should not be indulged, and troubles may not arise. Herewith is a list containing the names of steam-tugs owned by the foreign Kings with the price and rent of each and also the names of the junks of different firms with the names of the places between which they are flying, inclosed.

Upon receipt of this w/c (i.e., the Prefect and the Generals) have distributed reliable officers to go to Whampoa and to all places in the interior to strictly search for and seize such steam launches and bring them to Canton. Moreover we have given orders to the officials of all places to seize and prevent the same. Now let it be proclaimed to all the junk owners and junk people that you should know that there is a fixed regulation in regard to the navigation of junks. It is against the rule for those which carry heavy cargoes and triangular sails, how much more then there is for foreign steamers to go privately in the interior, when there are not any public documents by which they are allowed. But there has not been any such thing done before as using steam-tugs to tow junks to and from the interior, so here after you must follow the regulation by which the junks should navigate and must not violate the rule and privately buy or rent steam-tugs to tow junks to and from the interior. In case there is any one who is covetous of convenience and rapidity and privately purchases or leases steam-tugs to tow junks, he will be surely seized and punished, and the ship and cargo will be confiscated, no pardon allowed. All must obey tremblingly and not trespass against this rule.

Issued by  
13th Cavalry General —  
Canton Prefect —

Wong  
Joon  
Boon



No.

132

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.



August 23<sup>rd</sup> 1887

To Department of State.

Recd  
Oct 14

SUBJECT:

Seizures of property of foreign  
Merchants by Chinese officials.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

Transmitting Copy of Consul's  
dispatch to the Viceroy.

No. 132

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

The Honorable

August 23<sup>rd</sup> 1887

James D. Porter

Assistant Secretary of State.

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith a Copy of my dispatch to H. E. the Viceroy of the Two Kiangs, in regard to a recent attempt of the Lohin Officials at Canton, with the sanction and approval of the Chinese Authorities, to impose "new limitations" and "injurious restrictions" upon foreign merchants and commerce, by seizures of the property of American, British, and German merchants, to prevent shipments or delivery of their property, unless the same shall have been reported and registered at the Lohin Office.

The property seized was released; and such seizures have been discontinued, or suspended; and I am encouraged to believe the Chinese Authorities will realize the decree or necessity of abandoning their attempted encroachments upon the rights of foreign merchants, and upon the interests of foreign commerce.

The matter is of such importance, that I deemed it my duty to resist the unwarranted demands of the Chinese officials, which were sustained by the Authorities.

The facts have been communicated to the U.S. Legation and U.S. Consulate General.

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully,

Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul.

one inclosure,  
viz:  
Copy of dispatch  
from U.S. Consul  
to Vicaroy.



Canton August 18<sup>th</sup> 1887

To His Excellency  
 Chang  
 Viceroy of the Two Kuan g's

Sir

The American Consul has the honor to acknowledge having received Your Excellency's dispatch dated 11<sup>th</sup> instant, about seizures, by letkin officials, of property belonging to foreign merchants. Your Excellency will permit the American Consul to state that no foreign merchant and no foreign Consul in any Chinese port can assent to the propositions or views expressed in Your Excellency's dispatch, or conform to any such requirements as are therein indicated; because the property of foreign merchants is, by virtue of treaty stipulations, exempt from any such annoyances as seizures by letkin officials indiscriminately, when the Custom House papers and shipping bills for the said property are to be seen at the Custom House with the property, showing foreign ownership; and when there is no good & valid reason to believe that the property has been smuggled, or has been dishonestly obtained, or evaded legitimate dues to the Government. The facts are these. Your Excellency was informed by the American Consul on the 11<sup>th</sup> instant, that lots of mutton, owned by the American merchants, Messrs Russell & Co, having been seized by the letkin

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officials. notwithstanding the property was accompanied by shipping bills and Custom House permits, and the seizure was at or near the Custom House, where Export duty was paid, and evidence of ownership could there have been easily obtained. The detention of the property by seizure interrupted its shipment and caused serious inconvenience to its owners, and subjected the owners to extra expenses for men and boats; and at the same time troubled Your Excellency and the American Consul to get the property released from that undue molestation and embarrassment to which it has been subjected in violation of clearly expressed terms of the Treaty between China and the United States of America.

Your Excellency caused the release of the seized property. Other property, belonging to British and German merchants, seized this month by the Peking officials, was released by those officials, after the owners had reported the seizures to the British and German Consuls. A consignment of sugar, owned by British merchants, and consigned to the American merchants, Messrs Russell & Company, was also seized and released by the Peking officials last week.

Your Excellency's dispatch embodies or quotes the report of the seizing officials; and their actions and opinions seem to be adopted by Your Excellency. Let us carefully examine the facts, and see whether Peking officials can thus set Treaty rights aside.

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Your Excellency's dispatch of 14<sup>th</sup> instant, to which reference is made, closes with the statement that "this time the report of the goods to the Likin office with shipping bills can be omitted; but hereafter when that said foreign ship (Messrs Russell & Company) have cargoes exported or imported, they must follow the regulations and send a shipping bill to the Likin office, and have the goods reported, so as to avoid being again delayed."

Objection is made by the American merchants, and foreign merchants generally will concur in the same opinion, that these requirements of the Likin officials are "injurious restrictions" on foreign commerce; and as such are expressly forbidden by Treaty; and the American Consul so regards these "new limitations", which certainly "impede business" of foreign merchants, and are distinctly prohibited by Treaty.

Is Your Excellency quite sure that any of these Likin officials, who have recently imposed "new limitations" on foreign commerce, and seriously "impeded business" by such "injurious restrictions", as seizing cargoes of property of foreign (American, British and German) merchants, know a word of the Treaties between China and other countries; or have duly considered the undisputed authority and binding force of Treaties between China and other Nations, for the promotion of commerce, amity, and friendly intercourse?

A

Will Your Excellency kindly refer to the Treaty between China and the United States of America?

Article 5 on Commerce.

"At each of the said five ports, Citizens of the United States lawfully engaged in commerce shall be permitted to import from their own or any other ports, into China, and sell there, and purchase therein, and export to their own or any other ports all manner of merchandise, of which the importation or exportation is not prohibited by this Treaty, paying the duties which are prescribed by the tariff herein before established, and no other charges whatsoever."

Can it be justly claimed that when the Government of China and the Government of the United States of America, or other foreign Powers, entered into such a Treaty, and appended to it a specified tariff of duties, it was contemplated, by either of the high parties to the Treaty, that "toll" should be levied on foreign commodities in such a manner as to prevent such commodities of commerce from being imported into Canton, and sold or sent to consumers; and that purchasers in the interior of the Provinces of Kiang-tung and Kiang-si could only obtain these foreign commodities by a circuitous water and land route of from twelve hundred to fifteen hundred miles from the seaboard; via the

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Yangtze River and its tributaries and the tributaries of the Canton River, and overland transportation, at great expense, as has been done during the past two or three years? Or was it supposed that besides paying the prescribed duties on exports or imports, the foreign merchants would have their property seized by local officials unless the foreigners complied with "injurious restrictions", which "impeded business" of these foreign merchants?

If Article 5 of the Treaty is set aside by the local officials, with the apparent approval of Your Excellency, in the closing paragraph of Your Excellency's dispatch of the 14<sup>th</sup> instant, then what is to be done with

Article 15 of the Treaty, on Liberty of Trade?

"The former limitation of the trade of foreign nations to certain persons at Canton by the Government, and commonly called 'Hong' merchants, having been abolished, Citizens of the United States engaged in the purchase or sale of goods of import or export are admitted to trade with any and all subjects of China without distinction; they shall not be subject to any new limitations or impeded in their business by monopolies or other injurious restrictions."

Can Your Excellency, in the face of the above Article 15 of the Treaty, permit local officials to subject the foreign merchants or their property to "new limitations" or "injurious restrictions", which certainly are "impeding"



or have recently "impeded their business", by such acts as seizures of property, and preventing shipment in accordance with correspondence, instructions, or contracts?

Certainly these Likin officials cannot be invested with authority to override and set aside Treaties between Nations.

Your Excellency is also respectfully requested to examine Article 23 of the Treaty against detention of foreign property.

### Article 23.

"Citizens of the United States, their vessels and property, shall not be subject to any embargo; nor shall they be seized or forcibly detained for any pretence of the public service; but they shall be suffered to prosecute their commerce in quiet, and Without molestation" or Embarrassment.

With such a clearly expressed stipulation of Treaty against detention of the property of foreign merchants "for any pretence of the public service", can Your Excellency permit the seizure of the property of foreign merchants day after day, and notify consuls that hereafter unless foreign merchants comply with the regulation of Likin officials, the property of the foreign merchants will be seized and detained and subject to "molestation" and "injurious restriction", and their "business impeded" contrary to Treaty stipulations.

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between the friendly Governments or Nations of China and the United States of America? Such obstructions to commerce cannot be tolerated for a moment. Nothing of the kind has been "customary". The entire thing is wrong, and forbidden under the Treaty as "new limitations" and "injurious restrictions" and "impeding business". Instead of these seizures being in accordance with "regulations", they are entirely and wholly "irregular", and forbidden; and should be promptly discontinued, and never repeated, if Treaties between Nations are superior to the orders of local officials, in regard to the rights of foreign residents in China.

It is proper to remind Your Excellency that whenever foreign merchants and their consuls have tried to obtain any particulars or information as to the locations or numbers of the various lekin stations, and the aggregate of lekin required at those stations, for the purpose of extending trade to the interior, on "transit passes" according to the arrangements made between the "Sourghli Yamen" and the foreign Legations at Peking two or three years ago, Your Excellency declined to supply any particulars; and on various occasions foreign consuls have been informed by Chinese officials that foreigners have nothing to do with lekin affairs. So these demands of the lekin officials, communicated by Your Excellency's dispatch of 11<sup>th</sup> instant come as "new limitations", and they are

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"injurious restrictions", which are "impeding business" of American and other foreign merchants.

Furthermore, Your Excellency quoted the assurance of Peking officials that their requirements were acceded to and complied with by the other merchants, and if so the question arises - Why, then, has the property of British and German, as well as the property of American merchants, of high character and honorable standing, been seized during the present month by those Peking officials? The simple fact is they stated to Your Excellency what is not truth, as their seizure proves.

Your Excellency will find that the principal foreign merchants, irrespective of nationality, are not disposed to comply with the demands of the Peking officials, or consent to have their "business impeded" by these "new limitations and injurious restrictions."

The American Consul has not the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with the natives employed in the Chinese Peking service; but knows enough of the criminal and brutal conduct of the three foreign ruffians employed as Peking officials, to hope their Chinese colleagues are better men. One and the best of those foreign Peking officials was a deserter from the American man of war "Alert," in the port of Canton; and although several requests were made by the American Consul that Your Excellency would cause the arrest of the deserter, whose whereabouts

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were designated, the ruffian was not arrested, but became a kikin official; and after meddling with the dispatch boxes of foreign merchants in Shamien under the pretense of searching for smuggled opium, he finally fled. Another of those three ruffians died a few days ago at the Hospital. The third has gone away. So much for some of those kikin officials whose conduct did not tend to increase public respect for the kikin service.

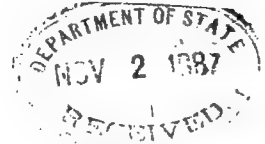
Hoping Your Excellency will put a stop to the seizure of property belonging to American Citizens, the American Consul, with renewed assurances of highest esteem, sends compliments and cards



Charles Seymour  
Consul of the United States of America.

97/ No. 133

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.



Mr. Seymour

September 14<sup>th</sup> 1887

To Department of State.

Harper

SUBJECT:

Transmitting Shipping Statistics for Trade Routes.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS: 24 Indomesing

{ 12 Quarterly Returns Form No. 120  
12 " " " " 129  
For 1884, 1885, & 1886. }

No. 133

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

The Honorable

September 14<sup>th</sup> 1887  
*James D. Porter*

Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to state that in March last (23<sup>rd</sup>) a Circular, dated December 10 1886, from the Department of State, accompanied by one without date with instructions about Form No. 120 and 129, came to this Consulate, calling for Shipping Statistics which could only be obtained by aid of officials in the Imperial Maritime Customs Service, and a view to returns which were not accessible for public use, until the published and authorized Trade Reports were issued, about the middle of 1887.

Without writing to the Department  
for permission to procure such  
aid, I made the best possible  
arrangements to comply with the  
requirements of the Department's  
Circular as to ship statistics  
for 1884, 1885, and 1886;  
which I now have the pleasure  
to transmit, free of cost for their  
preparation. The blanks sent  
to be filled had such narrow  
spaces for voyage figures, they  
were of no possible use; and  
therefore the returns appear  
in convenient form for the  
purpose stated.

Very, Sir,

Charles Seymour  
W. H. Bond

No. *134*  
U.S. CONSULATE GENERAL  
SEP 20 1887  
CANTON, CHINA

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
NOV 2 1887  
RECEIVED

*Mr. Seymour* September 14 1887

2d ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
Copy to Mr. Denby  
NOV 4 1887

To Department of State.

date 1887 and to  
SUBJECT:

*Figures of property of foreign merchants.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

*ac  
ad  
nov 9*



No.

134

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

The Honorable

James D. Foster

Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

September 14 1887

Sir:

I have the honor to inform  
you, while referring to my dispatch  
No. 132 under date of 23<sup>d</sup> ultimo,  
that the Chinese Authorities  
have discontinued seizures, by  
their officials, of property owned  
by foreign merchants, respecting  
which much anxiety existed  
among foreign merchants of all  
nationalities concerned; as there seemed  
to be a determined purpose on the  
part of the native officials to  
impose troublesome restrictions  
upon foreign commerce.  
The American, British, and

German Merchants interested  
 have expressed their thankful  
 appreciation of the successful  
 resistance made by this Consulate  
 against what were justly  
 regarded as serious encroachments  
 upon their commercial rights under  
 the treaties between China and  
 various foreign Powers.

It is gratifying to be able  
 to report the discontinuance of  
 the obnoxious proceedings of the  
 Chinese Officials in regard  
 to foreign Commerce, in the form of  
 unjustifiable seizures of the property  
 of foreign merchants.

Sam, Sir,  
 Charles Dickinson,  
 Charles Seymour,  
 W. A. Fowler.

UNITED STATES CONSULATE  
at Canton, China.

SEP 20 1887  
INGHA/CHINA, T.

To Mr. Denby  
for report  
Nov 10

ac Nov 10

SEP 20 1887  
RECEIVED

SEP 20 1887  
RECEIVED

September 15<sup>th</sup> 1887

M. Seymour

To Department of State.

Sept 15 1887

SUBJECT:

American Missionaries again driven away  
from Kwei Ping in Province of Kwang-Si.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

No. 135

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

The Honorable

September 15<sup>th</sup> 1887

James D. Fiske

Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that Rev A. A. Fulton, wife and children, and Miss Doctor M. M. Fulton, American citizens who were driven away from Kwei Ping in the Province of Kiangsi by the native mob May 6, 1886, returned last month to that place, accompanied by Doctor J. G. Kerr, Superintendent of Medical Mission Hospital at Canton.

Mrs and Miss D. Fulton, and the children of Rev and Mrs Fulton, were driven away from Kwei Ping, after a sojourn of one week, by the native mob throwing violently sticks, jagged, and other missiles at the boat in which the ladies lived, and reached Canton today at noon.

J. Kerr and Rev. H. Fulton remained at Tsin Ping, to ascertain what could be done toward a settlement for losses sustained by the outrage of May 6, 1886; and to consider the prospects for resumption of the Hospital and Missionary service at that place, but it looks as though their enterprise would be extinguished.

The local Magistrate issued a feeble Proclamation against renewal of outrages; but it had little or no perceptible effect upon the rabble; as it is generally known throughout the Empire of China that K'uei-lung, the Viceroy of the Province, is intensely anti-foreign in purpose, policy and action.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant;

Charles Seymour  
W. H. Jones

No.

136

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.



Mr. Seymour

October 5<sup>th</sup> 1887

To Department of State.



SUBJECT:

Transmitting Account, Vouchers, and Returns for  
3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 1887.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:



*on*  
No. 137

*J. J. Lane*  
United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.



*Mr. Lyman*

*October 8<sup>th</sup> 1887*

*To Department of State.*

SUBJECT:

*Consul's leave of absence.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

*copy No 5 and  
App 5*





United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

The Honorable

*James D. Fiske* 1897

Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of dispatch of 4th from the Department of State, granting me the favor of thirty days leave of absence, and to state that after five years of close application to Consular duties, I gladly avail myself of the permission to visit Japan, where I hope to meet my wife and daughter from America. I intend to leave Canton this day, and expect to return about the middle of November to Canton, and shall leave the Consulate in charge of Edwin J. Quinn, M. A. Grant, to whom I have paid three hundred dollars salary per annum for

the past five years, according to an agreement made with him, although, during that time, I have had no occasion to require his services to the value of over three hundred dollars computed at half salary rate; and then chiefly upon business which required my absence for a few days at a time for the Government. My address will be Canton, China, as I will not stop long in any one place until my return here next month.

I leave business in good shape generally; and have communicated fully with the U. S. Minister through the U. S. Consul General; and made the U. S. Vice Consul conversant with all current affairs of the Consulate.

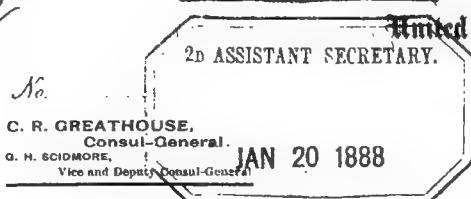
I am Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Wm. S. Lyman  
U. S. Consul

*P.O.*

Canton Consulate.



United States Consulate-General,

Kanagawa, (Yokohama) Japan.

October 17<sup>th</sup> 1887

Mr. Francis Wharton Esq.,

re re re

Washington D.C.

*Hand  
(A.C.)  
proven  
sent  
Jan 21/88*

Sir:

As Mr. Consul at Canton, I have  
been assisted by consulting your admirable  
Digest of International Law; and now have  
to request that you will send me as  
early as convenient a set of the 3 vols of  
"Wharton's International Law Digest", and  
"Appendix"; if possible in the "Dispatch Bag"  
of the Department of State, through  
the Mr. Consul General at Shanghai,  
for Mr. Consul at Canton, China;  
and let me know the money to be paid  
for the same, which I will promptly remit

I arrived here this morning from Hongkong; and avail myself of the earliest opportunity to comply with the wish, expressed by the Interoptian and Private Secretary of His Excellency, the Viceroy of the Two Kiangs, at Canton; with whom I had an interview recently in regard to the obstructions in the deep-water ship-channel between Canton and the Sea.

In that interview the Viceroy's attention was called particularly to <sup>a section</sup> paragraph 34 on page 127 of 1<sup>st</sup> Vol; and to Section 361 in 3<sup>rd</sup> Vol.

The following day the Viceroy's Secretary, in writing, repeated his verbal request, made during the interview, for a set of your "International Law Digest"; which I wish to present to him as early as convenient.

That Vicar, is the highest scholar in China, as well as the most intensely anti-foreign of high Chinese officials; and I am led to hope your excellent work may tend to get him upon a sound basis, and up to a better standard, in regard to inter-national comity and law.

I shall return to Canton in Nov, after this first vacation or season of rest in five years; and hope you will send the book, without delay. It seems unfortunate that so valuable a work should require such an extensive supplement in the form of "Errata".

I am, Sir,

Ever Adm't Servant,

Charles Seymour

W. House  
at Canton, China

No. 138.

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.



*APR*  
October 20<sup>th</sup> 1887

To Department of State.

SUBJECT:



*Replies to two circulars of Sept 10<sup>th</sup>.*

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

*Production and Export Tables  
enclosed in conformity and  
list of principal productions other  
than those reported.*

*2. Conformity as to the name of  
vessel whereon shipments act-  
ually are made being endorsed  
on Invoices.*

No. 138.

United States Consulate,  
at Canton, China.

October 28<sup>th</sup> 1887.  
The Honorable  
James D. Porter,  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir: I have the honor to  
acknowledge the receipt of  
two circulars of the Department  
dated September 10<sup>th</sup> 1887:—  
one, directing the preparation and  
forwarding of a return of the  
declared Exports to the United States  
from this Consular District dur-  
ing the four quarters of the year  
ended June 30<sup>th</sup> 1887; and the  
addition of a list, "without too great  
detail", of the principal productions  
of the district other than are shown  
by the declared export table.

Conforming my action promptly  
to

N<sup>o</sup> 1. <sup>to</sup> these instructions, I have the honor  
to enclose, a statement in the in-  
dicated tabular form, shewing a  
total of Exports from this District  
of \$2, 660, 630. currency, being an in-  
crease of \$935, 484. currency, over the  
value of the Exports of the year end-  
ed June 30<sup>th</sup> 1886. And a list  
N<sup>o</sup> 2. of the other principal productions  
of the District.

The other circular conveys in-  
struction, at the request of the Secretary  
of the Treasury, that in all cases the  
name of the vessel whereon Goods are  
actually shipped shall be indorsed  
upon the invoice thereof. Such, as  
I have known it, since Hook charge  
on May 13<sup>th</sup> 1882, has been the rule here.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient servant  
*[Signature]*  
A. W. C. Lloyd  
in charge

Two Inclosures.



No.

139

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.

M. Seymour Number 29<sup>th</sup> 1887  
To Department of State.

SUBJECT:

Reporting return of Consul to post of duty.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS:

No. 139

United States Consulate  
at Canton, China.



November 29<sup>th</sup> - 1897

Second Assistant Secretary of State.  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform  
you that, having availed myself  
of the leave of absence so kindly  
granted to me, and returned to Canton,  
after a delightful visit to Japan,  
and a week in Shanghai, I  
am again at my post of duty,  
thoroughly refreshed, and ready for  
business, and in charge of this Consulate.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour  
W. S. C.

